

NOVEMBER 1956

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 11

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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**OUTLOOK FOR
CONSTRUCTION
IN 1957 DOCUMENTS**

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Construction Review is prepared under the direction of

Walter W. Schneider, Chief
Construction Statistics and Economics Branch
BUILDING MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION
BUSINESS AND DEFENSE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Arnold E. Chase, Chief
Division of Construction Statistics

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
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Inquiries on the content may be addressed to Construction Review, in care of either agency.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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CONSTRUCTION LEGISLATION	(Published when Congress is in session; last shown in September 1956 issue.)
CONSTRUCTION REGULATIONS	(Published when significant regulations are issued; last shown in October 1956 issue.)

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At a Glance

OUTLOOK FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION IN 1957--New construction expenditures are expected to total \$46.4 billion in 1957--5 percent above the record \$44.1 billion evident for 1956. Some expansion is likely next year for most major types of construction except new private housing. Because of the housing decline, the private total is expected to increase only nominally in 1957 to \$31.4 billion, with the gain coming largely from increased construction by public utilities, and advances in all kinds of nonresidential building except stores. Public outlays will probably rise a substantial 12 percent to \$15 billion, mainly because of continued expansion in all kinds of State and local public works--especially highways, schools, and sewerage and water facilities.

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN OCTOBER--Outlays for new construction declined seasonally in October to \$4.1 billion--slightly above the previous October high set in 1955. Most major categories continued strong for the time of year, with spending at an alltime October high for private industrial plants, highways, public utilities, office buildings, sewerage and water facilities, churches, and public schools. The value of work on new private housing, however, declined more than seasonally, and was 14 percent below the October record of 1955.

HOUSING STARTS IN SEPTEMBER--Nonfarm housing starts declined more than seasonally to 93,000 in September. The 8,000-unit decrease from August was entirely in private housing and occurred chiefly in metropolitan areas. Adjusted for seasonal variation, privately owned units begun in September (89,900) were at an annual rate of 1,000,000--the lowest since January 1952. The 879,300 private and public units started thus far in 1956 were below January-September totals for 1950, 1954, and 1955, but above corresponding 9-month figures for all other years.

FHA-VA ACTIVITY IN SEPTEMBER--Housing begun under FHA programs dropped 19 percent in September to a new low for that month, and VA starts declined moderately for the fourth consecutive month. Comparing the first 9 months of 1955 and 1956, FHA-VA starts were 31 percent lower this year and accounted for nine-tenths of the drop in total private housing. Their ratio to total private starts fell from 51 to 43 percent. FHA applications for home mortgage insurance were at their lowest level since last December, and VA appraisal requests declined in September as is usual.

NONFARM MORTGAGE RECORDINGS IN AUGUST--The value of nonfarm mortgage recordings in August totaled more than \$2.5 billion--up 7 percent from July, but 6 percent below the alltime high of August 1955. While all types of lenders shared in the gain over the month, only two types were higher than a year ago--mutual savings banks and individuals. Activity of savings and loan associations, the major lending group, declined 13 percent over the year. For the first 8 months of 1956, the total of mortgage recordings (\$18.4 billion) was 3 percent lower than in the same 1955 period but exceeded the January-August total for all previous years.

BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY IN SEPTEMBER--Building permit valuations dropped 16 percent to \$1,442 million in September, when permit activity slowed for all major kinds of building construction. The rate of decrease was sharpest (18 percent) for new dwelling units and stores, and amounted to about 10 percent for each of the other important building types except community building, which slipped only 4 percent from August. Nonresidential building as a whole continued in September to exceed 1955 volume, but valuations for stores were below year-ago levels and dwelling-unit valuations dropped sharply (23 percent).

PUBLIC CONTRACT AWARDS IN AUGUST--The value of public contract awards dropped 24 percent in August to \$816 million, after holding to the \$1.1-billion level during June and July. Most major kinds of public work shared in the August decline in contract activity. The only advances of note were for Federal industrial plants (largely research and testing projects), federally aided State highways, and State and locally owned administrative buildings and sewerage facilities. Public award values continued to exceed 1955 levels, however, and for the first 8 months, the 1956 State and local total (\$5.7 billion) was up 15 percent from last year and the Federal total (\$1.4 billion) was 39 percent greater.

At a Glance

CONTRACT AWARDS IN 37 EASTERN STATES IN SEPTEMBER--The value of construction contracts in the 37 States east of the Rocky Mountains declined for the fourth consecutive month in September, to \$2 billion. The small decrease from August resulted from a 13-percent drop in the value of awards for residential building. Gains in commercial, industrial, and hospital building awards pushed the nonresidential total up by 4 percent over the month, and public works contracts advanced 18 percent. Total awards in the first 9 months of 1956 (at \$19.4 billion) were 7 percent above the corresponding 1955 figure--establishing a new record for the 9-month period.

CONSTRUCTION COSTS IN SEPTEMBER--After reaching an alltime high in August, the Commerce Department's Composite Cost Index remained virtually unchanged in September--at 132.2 percent of the 1947-49 average. During prior 1956 months, the index had advanced at an average rate of one-half of 1 percent a month, and in September it was 5 percent above a year earlier. Costs edged down this past September, however, for some kinds of construction, and for residences, the fractional decline from August was the first in 2-1/2 years.

BUILDING MATERIALS PRICES IN SEPTEMBER--The wholesale price index for building materials edged down from the record 131.5 of August to 131.2 in September--owing primarily to continued price declines for western softwoods and oak flooring, and decreases for building wire and cable. Mill prices for lumber items have been adversely affected by the declining rate of housing starts, with Douglas fir lumber down by 8 percent from May to September. Cable and wire prices declined in response to the lower cost of raw copper. These decreases were almost offset by higher prices for some steel products (oil tanks, miscellaneous hardware, heating equipment and metal doors), and for concrete products and aggregates.

UNION WAGE SCALES IN THE BUILDING TRADES, THIRD QUARTER, 1956--Union wage scales in the building trades edged up 0.5 percent in the third quarter of 1956--about the same rate of advance as in the 1955 third quarter. The recent increases affected a small proportion (a sixth) of unionized workers in the seven trades surveyed. A fifth of the scale revisions provided raises of 10 cents an hour; a sixth, 5 cents; and another sixth, 15 cents. At the end of the 1956 third quarter, the average hourly rate for all trades combined was \$3.05--an increase of 12.4 cents from October 3, 1955.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OUTPUT IN AUGUST--Output indexes rose in August for most major construction materials, and were at peak levels for Portland cement and clay construction products. The 30.1 million barrels of Portland cement produced in August, and the 33.6 million barrels shipped, were the highest ever recorded. At the same time, month-end stocks continued above year-ago levels in August, despite the recent excess of shipments over production. Output indexes for some products (notably lumber and wood products and millwork) moved up in August from the midsummer lull that usually occurs in July. Although steel output for construction was virtually halted during the recent widespread mill shutdowns, the volume of iron and steel construction products shipped during the first 8 months of 1956 was about 7 percent more than in the same 1955 months.

CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER--Although the number of workers on construction contractors payrolls declined more than seasonally in September (to 3,301,000), employment in the industry was at a new peak for that month, and was 207,000 above a year earlier. Data available through August show that in a majority of States and areas contract construction employment had increased both from the previous month and from August 1955. In 28 widely scattered areas, over-the-year increases amounted to 10 percent or more.

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN AUGUST--Weekly earnings in contract construction reached a new high of \$104.78 in August--\$1.53 above the previous maximum in June and \$6.64 above the August 1955 average. Hourly earnings this August, at a record \$2.75, were 14 cents more than a year earlier and the workweek was a half hour longer. Expansion in weekly and hourly pay occurred on all types of contract construction, both over the month and over the year. Increases from August 1955 in weekly earnings varied from \$5.45 for general contractors' employees to \$7.41 on nonbuilding construction.

Outlook For New Construction in 1957

Outlays for new construction are expected to total almost \$46-1/2 billion in 1957, about 5 percent above the record volume of more than \$44 billion evident for 1956, according to outlook estimates prepared jointly by the U. S. Department of Labor and the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Some expansion is likely in the coming year in most major types of construction, except new private housing. Because of the housing decline, private construction activity as a whole is expected to show only a nominal increase over this year's level, reaching a total of \$31.4 billion in 1957, but public construction outlays will probably rise a substantial 12 percent, to \$15 billion. Physical volume (expenditures adjusted for price changes) also may be up slightly from 1956, and will about equal the record set in 1955.

The anticipated volume of new construction in 1957 is based on the assumption that the general level of economic activity will advance moderately, with employment continuing at record levels and personal income reaching a new high. It was assumed also that international developments will not significantly affect construction activity in continental United States during the coming year.

Construction costs are expected to continue to rise, but at a rate slightly lower than in 1956. Building materials generally should be in adequate supply, with no more than minor spot shortages likely, because of extensive gains in plant capacity and record production levels. Mortgage funds, however, will probably continue to be relatively scarce, especially for long-term, low downpayment loans, reflecting widespread competition for credit to meet the unusually large demands of businesses, governmental units, and individual consumers in a record-breaking economy.

The value of work put in place in 1957 on private nonfarm residential construction is likely to total not quite \$14-3/4 billion, about 3 percent below 1956 volume. Anticipated increases in spending for additions and alterations to older homes and for construction of motels and other nonhousekeeping residential units will not be sufficient to offset the 5-percent decrease expected in outlays for new homebuilding. The decline in expenditures for new private housing, however, will probably be less than the drop in housing starts, since the dollar volume figure will reflect higher construction costs and the continuing trend toward larger homes with more quality features.

Prospects are that about a million new private nonfarm dwelling units will be started next year. This compares with an average annual rate (seasonally adjusted) of 1,100,000 for the first 10 months of 1956, and a 1955 total of 1,310,000. The still relatively high level of housing starts predicted for 1957, despite continuation of present mortgage financing problems, results in part from sustained consumer demand for better housing, backed by rising incomes; a large volume of retirements (demolished, abandoned, or converted units) from the housing supply; and a steadily increasing and highly mobile population.

Most of the gain in private construction outlays between 1956 and 1957 is anticipated from increased construction activity by the public utilities, and advances in all types of new nonresidential building except commercial building, which is expected to remain unchanged from this year's record level.

Announced expansion programs suggest unprecedented expenditures in 1957 of about \$5-3/4 billion on privately owned public utilities. The most significant dollar gains among the several kinds of utilities will probably occur in natural gas pipelines and electric power facilities construction.

Present indications are that private industrial plant construction will continue to expand in 1957, but at a much slower rate than during the past two years. The slower rate of expansion, which is apparent from the declining level of contract awards in recent months, reflects in part the fulfillment of capacity goals in some industries, and some revision of expansion programs in others. The \$3.2 billion expected to be put in place on industrial buildings in the coming year will be an alltime high, exceeding 1956 volume by 5 percent and 1955 by 33 percent.

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Outlays for commercial buildings will probably total \$3.3 billion, with an increase for office buildings offsetting a decline in expenditures for new stores and other mercantile buildings. Demand for additional office space is still high, as indicated by the continued low office-building vacancy rate. On the other hand, declining contract awards volume and the completion of many new shopping centers suggest that store-building demand is beginning to taper off.

NEW CONSTRUCTION PUT IN PLACE IN CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES DURING 1956 AND OUTLOOK FOR 1957¹

Type of construction	Value (in millions)		Percent change
	1956	1957	
Total new construction	\$44,125	\$46,400	+ 5
Private construction	30,700	31,400	+ 2
Residential building (nonfarm).....	15,200	14,700	- 3
New dwelling units.....	13,370	12,700	- 5
Additions and alterations.....	1,385	1,500	+ 8
Nonhousekeeping	445	500	+12
Nonresidential building (nonfarm).....	8,800	9,275	+ 5
Industrial	3,060	3,200	+ 5
Commercial	3,300	3,300	0
Office buildings and warehouses.....	1,365	1,500	+10
Stores, restaurants, and garages	1,935	1,800	- 7
Other nonresidential building.....	2,440	2,775	+14
Religious.....	775	875	+13
Educational.....	535	550	+ 3
Hospital and institutional.....	325	400	+23
Social and recreational	270	300	+11
Miscellaneous	535	650	+21
Farm construction.....	1,500	1,550	+ 3
Public utility.....	5,080	5,750	+13
Railroad.....	435	450	+ 3
Telephone and telegraph.....	970	1,075	+11
Other public utility.....	3,675	4,225	+15
Local transit.....	25	25	0
Pipelines.....	350	375	+ 7
Electric light and power	1,900	2,100	+11
Gas	1,400	1,725	+23
All other private.....	120	125	+ 4
Public construction	13,425	15,000	+12
Residential building.....	275	450	+64
Nonresidential building.....	4,050	4,500	+11
Industrial.....	425	425	0
Educational.....	2,560	2,850	+11
Hospital and institutional.....	305	375	+23
Other nonresidential building.....	760	850	+12
Military facilities.....	1,420	1,525	+ 7
Highway.....	5,100	5,500	+ 8
Sewage disposal.....	710	875	+23
Water supply.....	580	675	+16
Public service enterprises	450	475	+ 6
Conservation and development.....	660	800	+21
All other public	180	200	+11

¹ Joint estimates of the Department of Labor and the Department of Commerce.

An anticipated slight rise in farm construction, reversing a 4-year downtrend, is based chiefly on recent advances in farm income. Religious and private educational building, each of which achieved more construction put in place in 1956 than in any previous year, will likely expand still more in 1957.

The expected increase in public construction activity next year reflects mainly continued expansion in all types of State and local public works, especially highways, schools, and sewer and water

facilities. A backlog of needs for these categories still exists, despite rising expenditures in recent years.

Highway construction probably will reach a new high of \$5-1/2 billion, or about 8 percent above this year's level, principally because of the expanding program of Federal aid to highways. State toll-road construction may decline somewhat, as work on new and continuing projects will not compensate for major completions in 1956. To provide essential community services to new housing developments and continually growing suburbs, record expenditures of nearly \$2.9 billion for public school building appear likely in 1957, and the value of new sewer and water facilities construction is expected to go over the \$1-1/2 billion level for the first time.

Public and private hospital building, which has been declining since 1954, may show an upturn next year, reflecting in part the influence of increases in Federal-aid funds. Nevertheless, hospital construction outlays will not reach the levels attained in the 1950-52 period.

Construction work at military bases is scheduled for another moderate advance in 1957, and will be at a postwar high. Outlays for public housing will show the first significant expansion since 1951, primarily because of the new Federal program of military (Capehart) housing under title VIII of the National Housing Act. Conservation and development construction is expected to increase for the second successive year, when major works such as the Oahe Reservoir on the Missouri River and channel development of the St. Lawrence reach peak activity.

WAGE CHRONOLOGY: UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION, 1937-55

. This publication provides information, for the steel-producing divisions of the U. S. Steel Corporation, on changes in wage rates and related practices that have been negotiated with the United Steelworkers of America (AFL-CIO) during the 19 years 1937-55. Major developments of collective bargaining in the industry, including expansion of contract agreements to cover conditions of employment other than wage scales, are traced in a brief summary statement. Detailed tabulations provide data on general wage changes in individual contract agreements negotiated during these years; changes in minimum hourly rates; negotiated provisions for related wage benefits (i.e., overtime, holidays, vacations, severance pay, and insurance and pension plans); and the schedule of standard hourly rates for typical jobs, by job title and mill department.

Copies of this publication--Wage Chronology: United States Steel Corporation, 1937-55 (BLS Report No. 106, July 1956)--may be obtained without charge from the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington 25, D. C.

STATISTICAL SERIES

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NOTE: ALL THE STATISTICAL SERIES IN CONSTRUCTION REVIEW
ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION FOR THE LATEST PERIOD SHOWN.

Part I--Construction Put in Place

Table 1.--New Construction Put in Place: Current Month, by Type of Construction

Type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)					Percent change		
	1956		1955	First 10 months		Oct. 1956 from--		First 10 months, 1955-56
	Oct.	Sept.*	Oct.	1956*	1955	Sept. 1956	Oct. 1955	
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION	4,126	4,250	4,037	36,977	36,031	- 3	+ 2	+ 3
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION	2,751	2,833	2,810	25,652	25,474	- 3	- 2	+ 1
Residential building (nonfarm).....	1,350	1,405	1,509	12,789	13,897	- 4	-11	- 8
New dwelling units.....	1,175	1,225	1,360	11,260	12,550	- 4	-14	-10
Additions and alterations.....	134	140	116	1,164	1,071	- 4	+16	+ 9
Nonhousekeeping.....	41	40	33	365	276	+ 3	+24	+32
Nonresidential building.....	793	788	721	7,239	6,218	+ 1	+10	+16
Industrial.....	274	276	219	2,524	1,952	- 1	+25	+29
Commercial.....	287	288	306	2,736	2,476	(1)	- 6	+11
Office buildings and warehouses.....	130	127	106	1,103	915	+ 2	+23	+21
Stores, restaurants, and garages.....	157	161	200	1,633	1,561	- 2	-22	+ 5
Other nonresidential building.....	232	224	196	1,979	1,790	+ 4	+18	+11
Religious.....	76	74	68	625	606	+ 3	+12	+ 3
Educational.....	49	49	45	443	403	0	+ 9	+10
Hospital and institutional.....	31	30	30	264	295	+ 3	+ 3	-11
Social and recreational.....	27	27	21	222	198	0	+29	+12
Miscellaneous.....	49	44	32	425	288	+11	+53	+48
Farm construction.....	122	148	132	1,307	1,391	-18	- 8	- 6
Public utility.....	474	480	437	4,218	3,828	- 1	+ 8	+10
Railroad.....	41	40	39	360	309	+ 3	+ 5	+17
Telephone and telegraph.....	85	85	75	805	659	0	+13	+22
Other public utility.....	348	355	323	3,053	2,860	- 2	+ 8	+ 7
All other private.....	12	12	11	99	140	0	+ 9	-29
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	1,375	1,417	1,227	11,325	10,557	- 3	+12	+ 7
Residential building.....	25	25	22	230	221	0	+14	+ 4
Nonresidential building.....	371	379	350	3,404	3,620	- 2	+ 6	- 6
Industrial.....	41	41	40	362	653	0	+ 3	-45
Educational.....	227	229	212	2,136	2,056	- 1	+ 7	+ 4
Hospital and institutional.....	30	31	28	258	286	- 3	+ 7	-10
Other nonresidential building.....	73	78	70	648	625	- 6	+ 4	+ 4
Military facilities.....	143	139	136	1,166	1,084	+ 3	+ 5	+ 8
Highway.....	585	615	524	4,365	3,852	- 5	+12	+13
Sewer and water.....	122	123	97	1,072	916	- 1	+26	+17
Sewer.....	66	66	54	588	518	0	+22	+14
Water.....	56	57	43	484	398	- 2	+30	+22
Public service enterprises.....	44	49	31	387	232	-10	+42	+67
Conservation and development.....	66	68	52	550	500	- 3	+27	+10
All other public.....	19	19	15	151	132	0	+27	+14

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.
less than one-half of 1 percent.

* Revisions in data for January-September 1956 are included in this issue.

¹ Change of

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Table 2.—New Construction Put in Place: Recent Monthly Trend, by Type of Construction

(Value, in millions of dollars)

Type of construction	1955			1956*									
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION..	4,037	3,702	3,258	2,939	2,816	3,077	3,417	3,764	4,071	4,231	4,286	4,250	4,126
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION	2,810	2,663	2,435	2,176	2,088	2,260	2,424	2,596	2,786	2,865	2,873	2,833	2,751
Residential building													
(nonfarm).....	1,509	1,419	1,279	1,080	998	1,116	1,232	1,315	1,417	1,445	1,431	1,405	1,350
New dwelling units	1,360	1,280	1,160	980	895	1,000	1,090	1,150	1,235	1,260	1,250	1,225	1,175
Additions and alterations...	116	107	88	70	73	86	109	128	142	142	140	140	134
Nonhousekeeping.....	33	32	31	30	30	30	33	37	40	43	41	40	41
Nonresidential building	721	715	679	650	648	655	665	705	760	787	788	788	793
Industrial	219	224	223	223	225	226	239	252	263	270	276	276	274
Commercial	306	297	270	251	252	257	252	266	290	300	293	288	287
Office buildings and													
warehouses.....	106	112	109	105	101	97	98	102	106	114	123	127	130
Stores, restaurants,													
and garages	200	185	161	146	151	160	154	164	184	186	170	161	157
Other nonresidential bldg. ..	196	194	186	176	171	172	174	187	207	217	219	224	232
Religious	68	66	62	58	55	53	53	56	62	67	71	74	76
Educational	45	45	44	41	40	39	40	42	46	48	49	49	49
Hospital & institutional ..	30	29	27	26	25	25	24	24	25	26	28	30	31
Social and recreational...	21	21	20	18	17	18	19	21	23	25	27	27	27
Miscellaneous	32	33	33	33	34	37	38	44	51	51	44	44	49
Farm construction	132	111	98	97	101	109	121	139	150	159	161	148	122
Public utility	437	407	369	341	334	373	398	427	448	462	481	480	474
Railroad	39	35	30	30	29	33	35	36	38	39	39	40	41
Telephone and telegraph ..	75	74	72	70	70	75	80	80	85	85	90	85	85
Other public utility	323	298	267	241	235	265	283	311	325	338	352	355	348
All other private	11	11	10	8	7	7	8	10	11	12	12	12	12
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION.....	1,227	1,039	823	763	728	817	993	1,168	1,285	1,366	1,413	1,417	1,375
Residential building	22	21	21	20	21	19	23	23	26	24	24	25	25
Nonresidential building	350	321	286	293	284	301	315	335	357	380	389	379	371
Industrial	40	38	30	36	33	31	29	32	38	38	43	41	41
Educational	212	200	186	190	187	195	206	216	220	231	235	229	227
Hospital and institutional ..	28	25	20	20	19	23	23	25	26	30	31	31	30
Other nonresidential bldg. ..	70	58	50	47	45	52	57	62	73	81	80	78	73
Military facilities	136	116	97	84	82	91	104	117	132	135	139	139	143
Highway	524	405	263	210	195	230	350	470	535	575	600	615	585
Sewer and water.....	97	89	80	82	77	92	102	109	115	123	127	123	122
Sewer.....	54	51	46	46	42	50	57	60	63	68	70	66	66
Water	43	38	34	36	35	42	45	49	52	55	57	57	56
Public service enterprises.....	31	25	22	25	23	30	38	40	42	47	49	49	44
Conservation and													
development	52	49	44	39	36	42	47	58	62	65	67	68	66
All other public	15	13	10	10	10	12	14	16	16	17	18	19	19

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor. * Revisions in data for January-September 1956 are included in this issue.

COMPOSITION OF REGIONS AND GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS

NORTHEAST

1. New England
Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Vermont
2. Middle Atlantic
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania

NORTH CENTRAL

3. E. N. Central
Illinois
Indiana
Michigan
Ohio
Wisconsin
4. W. N. Central
Iowa
Kansas
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
South Dakota

SOUTH

5. S. Atlantic
Delaware
Dist. of Col.
Florida
Georgia
Maryland
N. Carolina
S. Carolina
Virginia
W. Virginia
6. E. S. Central
Alabama
Kentucky
Mississippi
Tennessee
7. W. S. Central
Arkansas
Louisiana
Oklahoma
Texas

WEST

8. Mountain
Arizona
Colorado
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Utah
Wyoming
9. Pacific
California
Oregon
Washington

NONFARM POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN 1950

NORTHEAST—29.5 percent.

NORTH CENTRAL—29.0 percent.

SOUTH—27.7 percent.

WEST—13.8 percent.

Chart 1.

New Construction Put in Place

Billions of Dollars

Billions of Dollars

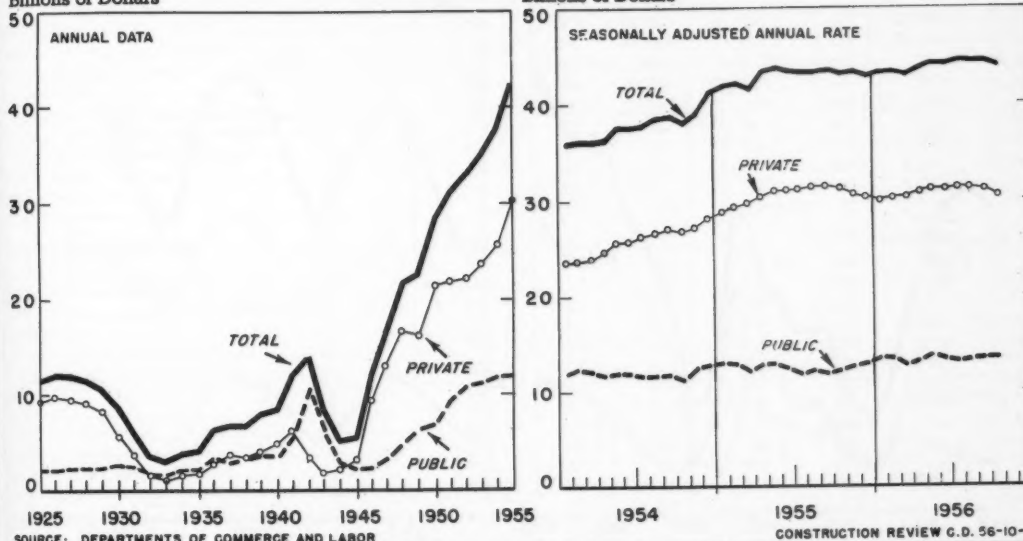


Table 3.--New Construction Put in Place: Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate, by Type of Construction

(Value, in millions of dollars)

Type of construction	1955	1956*									
	Oct.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION..	43,176	43,428	43,584	43,080	44,244	44,844	44,832	44,712	44,568	44,316	43,932
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION	31,128	30,072	30,276	30,360	31,008	31,272	31,272	31,440	31,296	31,044	30,444
Residential bldg. (nonfarm)	16,500	15,432	15,348	15,216	15,564	15,624	15,600	15,624	15,468	15,324	14,724
Nonresidential building	8,220	7,968	8,268	8,484	8,796	8,952	8,988	9,108	9,096	9,000	9,024
Industrial	2,556	2,604	2,652	2,736	2,928	3,156	3,288	3,336	3,348	3,252	3,192
Commercial	3,504	3,192	3,384	3,480	3,492	3,360	3,288	3,288	3,336	3,300	3,276
Office buildings and warehouses	1,224	1,200	1,224	1,248	1,296	1,332	1,356	1,380	1,428	1,476	1,500
Stores, restaurants, and garages	2,280	1,992	2,160	2,232	2,196	2,028	1,932	1,908	1,908	1,824	1,776
Other nonresidential bldg.	2,160	2,172	2,232	2,268	2,376	2,436	2,412	2,484	2,412	2,448	2,556
Farm construction	1,584	1,560	1,548	1,536	1,524	1,512	1,500	1,488	1,488	1,476	1,464
Public utility	4,692	4,992	5,016	5,028	5,028	5,076	5,076	5,088	5,112	5,100	5,076
All other private	132	120	96	96	96	108	108	120	132	144	156
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	12,048	13,356	13,308	12,720	13,236	13,572	13,560	13,272	13,272	13,272	13,488
Residential building	252	264	288	240	288	276	300	276	264	276	288
Nonresidential building	3,912	3,996	4,056	3,840	3,780	3,900	4,080	4,068	4,128	4,140	4,164
Military facilities	1,416	1,200	1,296	1,236	1,332	1,464	1,536	1,488	1,416	1,392	1,476
Highway	4,356	5,604	5,316	4,932	5,256	5,316	5,100	4,896	4,836	4,764	4,836
Sewer and water	1,068	1,176	1,200	1,272	1,272	1,272	1,272	1,236	1,296	1,320	1,344
Public service enterprises	348	396	420	432	504	444	408	432	444	492	492
Conservation & development	516	576	576	612	636	720	696	696	696	684	672
All other public	180	144	156	156	168	180	168	180	192	204	216

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

* Revisions in data for January-September 1956 are included in this issue.

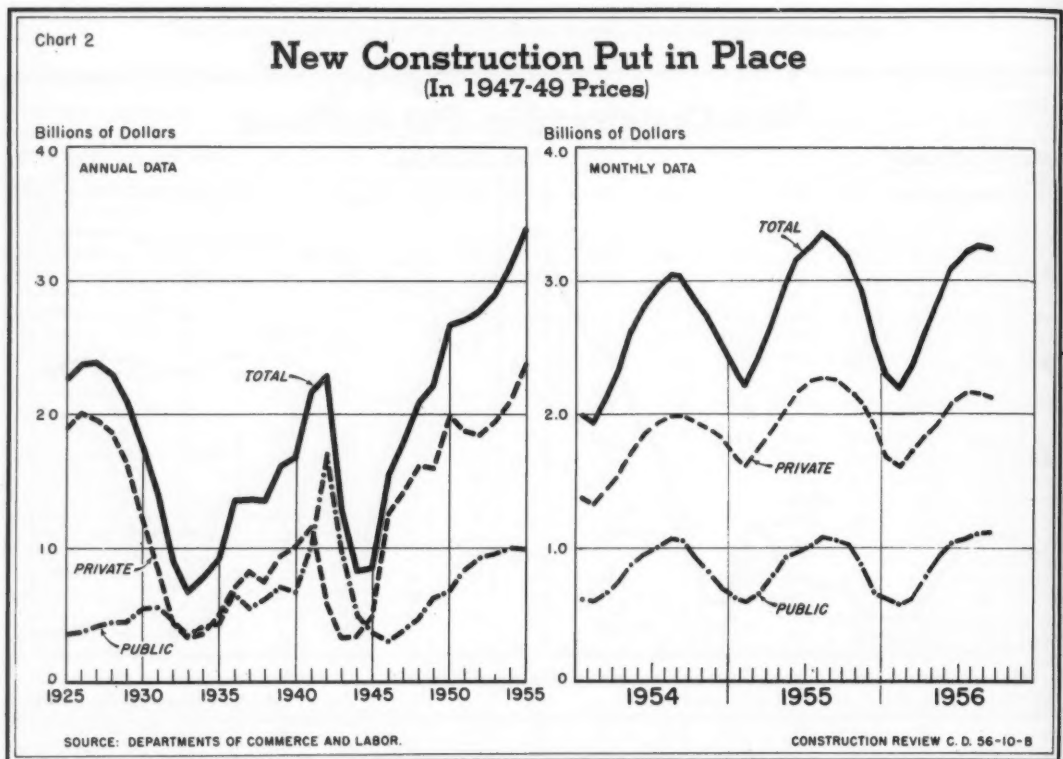


Table 4.—New Construction Put in Place: Value in 1947-49 Prices, by Type of Construction

Type of construction	(Millions of dollars)									
	1955 Sept.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION	3,307	2,289	2,181	2,374	2,634	2,894	3,122	3,236	3,265	3,236
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION	2,253	1,682	1,605	1,730	1,845	1,962	2,098	2,153	2,151	2,118
Residential building (nonfarm)	1,247	854	783	872	956	1,013	1,089	1,109	1,097	1,078
Nonresidential building	556	500	498	500	506	533	572	589	589	587
Industrial	170	176	177	177	186	195	203	207	211	210
Office buildings and warehouses	80	81	78	74	75	77	80	85	92	95
Stores, restaurants, and garages	154	110	114	120	115	122	136	137	125	118
Other nonresidential bldgs.	152	133	129	129	130	139	153	160	161	164
Farm construction	133	80	83	89	99	112	121	128	129	118
Public utility	309	242	236	264	279	297	309	319	328	327
All other private	8	6	5	5	5	7	7	8	8	8
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	1,054	607	576	644	789	932	1,024	1,083	1,114	1,118
Residential building	18	16	16	15	18	18	20	18	18	19
Nonresidential building	288	223	215	227	237	251	265	281	287	279
Industrial	36	28	26	24	23	25	29	29	33	31
Educational	169	144	141	147	154	161	163	170	172	168
Hospital and institutional	25	15	14	17	17	19	19	22	23	23
Other nonresidential building	58	36	34	39	43	46	54	60	59	57
Military facilities	111	68	66	73	82	92	104	105	108	108
Highway	495	192	178	209	315	420	476	511	527	540
Sewer and water	70	57	53	63	70	74	78	82	85	82
Public service enterprises	24	17	16	20	25	27	28	31	32	32
Conservation and development	37	27	25	29	32	39	42	44	45	45
All other public	11	7	7	8	10	11	11	11	12	13

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

*Revisions in data for January-August 1956 are included in this issue.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

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Table 4.—New Construction Put in Place: Value in 1947-49 Prices, by Type of Construction—Continued

(Millions of dollars)

Type of construction	Annual total						
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
TOTAL NEW CONSTRUCTION	22,177	26,608	26,988	27,662	28,931	31,094	34,476
PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION	15,956	19,885	18,677	18,428	19,433	21,000	24,155
Residential building (nonfarm)	8,128	11,634	9,457	9,311	9,840	11,214	13,378
Nonresidential building	3,124	3,566	4,494	4,211	4,655	5,073	5,995
Industrial	954	1,004	1,790	1,909	1,807	1,690	1,946
Office buildings and warehouses	313	396	500	461	640	789	898
Stores, restaurants, and garages	677	828	733	525	857	998	1,473
Other nonresidential buildings	1,180	1,338	1,471	1,316	1,351	1,596	1,678
Farm construction	1,479	1,583	1,616	1,643	1,484	1,407	1,350
Public utility	3,151	3,001	3,056	3,194	3,362	3,216	3,319
All other private	74	101	54	69	92	90	113
PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	6,221	6,723	8,311	9,234	9,498	10,094	10,321
Residential building	353	321	512	550	459	281	213
Nonresidential building	1,990	2,237	3,050	3,465	3,531	3,743	3,299
Industrial	173	212	821	1,384	1,434	1,253	588
Educational	897	1,061	1,337	1,375	1,397	1,696	1,888
Hospital and institutional	458	467	466	401	297	289	257
Other nonresidential building	462	497	426	305	403	505	566
Military facilities	134	171	788	1,195	1,105	872	1,067
Highway	2,128	2,367	2,349	2,489	2,851	3,689	4,249
Sewer and water	586	590	655	639	681	724	770
Public service enterprises	190	164	168	148	146	156	192
Conservation and development	750	786	721	694	639	520	421
All other public	90	87	68	54	86	109	110

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

Table 5.—New Public Construction Put in Place, by Source of Funds, Ownership, and Type of Construction

Source of funds, ownership, and type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)											Percent change	
	1955	1956*										Oct. 1956 from—	
		Oct.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Oct. 1955	Sept. 1956
TOTAL PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION..	1,227	763	728	817	993	1,168	1,285	1,366	1,413	1,417	1,375	+12	-
Federal funds.....	336	208	195	215	254	304	354	372	379	385	382	+14	- 1
Direct Federal.....	251	168	159	176	195	227	260	274	278	273	274	+ 9	(1)
Federal grants-in-aid ²	85	40	36	39	59	77	94	98	101	112	108	+27	- 4
State and local funds	891	555	533	602	739	864	931	994	1,034	1,032	993	+11	- 4
FEDERALLY OWNED.....	251	168	159	176	195	227	260	274	278	273	274	+ 9	(1)
Residential building.....	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	2	2	3	3	--	0
Nonresidential building	54	41	38	37	36	41	53	61	58	52	52	- 4	0
Industrial	40	36	33	31	29	32	38	38	43	41	41	+ 3	0
Educational	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	0	--
Hospital	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	+50	0
Other nonresidential	10	3	3	3	3	5	12	18	11	8	6	-40	-25
Military facilities	136	84	82	91	104	117	132	135	139	139	143	+ 5	+ 3
Highway	8	4	3	4	6	8	9	10	11	10	9	+13	-10
Conservation and development ...	52	39	36	42	47	58	62	65	67	68	66	+27	- 3
All other federally owned	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
STATE AND LOCALLY OWNED.....	976	595	569	641	798	941	1,025	1,092	1,135	1,144	1,101	+13	- 4
Residential building	22	20	21	18	22	21	23	22	22	22	22	0	0
Nonresidential building	296	252	246	264	279	294	304	319	331	327	319	+ 8	- 2
Educational	210	190	187	195	205	215	220	230	234	229	225	+ 7	- 2
Hospital	26	18	17	20	20	22	23	26	28	28	27	+ 4	- 4
Other nonresidential	60	44	42	49	54	57	61	63	69	70	67	+12	- 4
Highway	516	206	192	226	344	462	526	565	589	605	576	+12	- 5
Sewer and water	97	82	77	92	102	109	115	123	127	123	122	+26	- 1
Sewer.....	54	46	42	50	57	60	63	68	70	66	66	+22	0
Water	43	36	35	42	45	49	52	55	57	57	56	+30	- 2
All other State & locally owned ..	45	35	33	41	51	55	57	63	66	67	62	+38	- 7

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor.

* Revisions in data for January-September 1956 are included in this issue.

¹ Change

of less than one-half of 1 percent. ² Construction programs currently receiving Federal grants-in-aid cover highways, schools, hospitals, airports, and miscellaneous community facilities.

Part II--New Housing

Table 6.--New Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started, by Ownership, Location, and Type of Structure

Period	Total	Ownership		Location ¹		Type of structure			
		Private	Public	Metro- politan	Nonmetro- politan	1-family houses	Units in 2-or-more family structures		
							All	2-4 family	5-or-more family
NUMBER OF NEW DWELLING UNITS (in thousands)									
Year: 1946.....	670.5	662.5	8.0	(2)	(2)	590.0	80.5	(3)	(3)
1947.....	849.0	845.6	3.4	(2)	(2)	740.2	108.8	(3)	(3)
1948.....	931.6	913.5	18.1	(2)	(2)	766.6	165.0	(3)	(3)
1949.....	1,025.1	988.8	36.3	(2)	(2)	794.3	230.8	(3)	(3)
1950.....	1,396.0	1,352.2	43.8	1,021.6	374.4	1,154.1	241.9	(3)	(3)
1951.....	1,091.3	1,020.1	71.2	776.8	314.5	900.1	191.2	(3)	(3)
1952.....	1,127.0	1,068.5	58.5	794.9	332.1	942.5	184.5	(3)	(3)
1953.....	1,103.8	1,068.3	35.5	803.5	300.3	937.8	166.0	(3)	(3)
1954.....	1,220.4	1,201.7	18.7	896.9	323.5	1,077.9	142.5	51.9	90.6
1955.....	1,328.9	1,309.5	19.4	975.8	353.1	1,194.4	134.5	49.2	85.3
First 9 months, 1955.....	1,057.7	1,042.8	14.9	780.0	277.7	950.4	107.3	38.0	69.3
First 9 months, 1956.....	879.3	859.4	19.9	614.4	264.9	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
1955: September.....	114.9	113.6	1.3	83.5	31.4	104.1	10.8	3.6	7.2
October.....	105.8	104.8	1.0	76.5	29.3	95.1	10.7	3.7	7.0
November.....	89.2	88.4	.8	64.6	24.6	80.4	8.8	4.3	4.5
December.....	76.2	73.5	2.7	54.7	21.5	68.5	7.7	3.2	4.5
1956: January.....	75.0	73.7	1.3	54.3	20.7	66.8	8.2	3.2	5.0
February.....	78.3	77.0	1.3	57.6	20.7	69.1	9.2	3.6	5.6
March.....	98.6	93.9	4.7	71.9	26.7	86.1	12.5	4.4	8.1
April.....	111.3	109.9	1.4	76.1	35.2	100.0	11.3	4.1	7.2
May.....	113.7	110.8	2.9	77.6	36.1	101.3	12.4	4.4	8.0
June.....	107.4	104.6	2.8	74.5	32.9	96.5	10.9	3.9	7.0
July.....	101.0	99.1	1.9	71.4	29.6	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
August.....	101.0	100.5	.5	69.2	31.8	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
September.....	93.0	89.9	3.1	61.8	31.2	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Percent change									
First 9 months, 1955-56.....	-16.9	-17.6	+33.6	-21.2	-4.6	--	--	--	--
August-September, 1956.....	-7.9	-10.5	(5)	-10.7	-1.9	--	--	--	--
September, 1955-56.....	-19.1	-20.9	+138.5	-26.0	-6	--	--	--	--
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Year: 1946.....	100	98.8	1.2	--	--	88.0	12.0	--	--
1947.....	100	99.6	.4	--	--	87.2	12.8	--	--
1948.....	100	98.1	1.9	--	--	82.3	17.7	--	--
1949.....	100	96.5	3.5	--	--	77.5	22.5	--	--
1950.....	100	96.9	3.1	73.2	26.8	82.7	17.3	--	--
1951.....	100	93.5	6.5	71.2	28.8	82.5	17.5	--	--
1952.....	100	94.8	5.2	70.5	29.5	83.6	16.4	--	--
1953.....	100	96.8	3.2	72.8	27.2	85.0	15.0	--	--
1954.....	100	98.5	1.5	73.5	26.5	88.3	11.7	4.3	7.4
1955.....	100	98.5	1.5	73.4	26.6	89.9	10.1	3.7	6.4
First 9 months, 1955.....	100	98.6	1.4	73.7	26.3	89.9	10.1	3.6	6.5
First 9 months, 1956.....	100	97.7	2.3	69.9	30.1	--	--	--	--
1955: September.....	100	98.9	1.1	72.7	27.3	90.6	9.4	3.1	6.3
October.....	100	99.1	.9	72.3	27.7	89.9	10.1	3.5	6.6
November.....	100	99.1	.9	72.4	27.6	90.1	9.9	4.8	5.1
December.....	100	96.5	3.5	71.8	28.2	89.9	10.1	4.2	5.9
1956: January.....	100	98.3	1.7	72.4	27.6	89.1	10.9	4.3	6.6
February.....	100	98.3	1.7	73.6	26.4	88.3	11.7	4.6	7.1
March.....	100	95.2	4.8	72.9	27.1	87.3	12.7	4.5	8.2
April.....	100	98.7	1.3	68.4	31.6	89.8	10.2	3.7	6.5
May.....	100	97.4	2.6	68.2	31.8	89.1	10.9	3.9	7.0
June.....	100	97.4	2.6	69.4	30.6	89.9	10.1	3.6	6.5
July.....	100	98.1	1.9	70.7	29.3	--	--	--	--
August.....	100	99.5	.5	68.5	31.5	--	--	--	--
September.....	100	96.7	3.3	66.5	33.5	--	--	--	--

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Data by urban and rural-nonfarm classification for 1920-53 are available upon request. ² Annual data not available before 1950; monthly data not available before January 1953. ³ Not available before January 1954. Tabulations showing the number of units in 2-family and 3-or-more family structures for 1920-53 are available upon request. ⁴ Not yet available. ⁵ Percent increase exceeds 300.

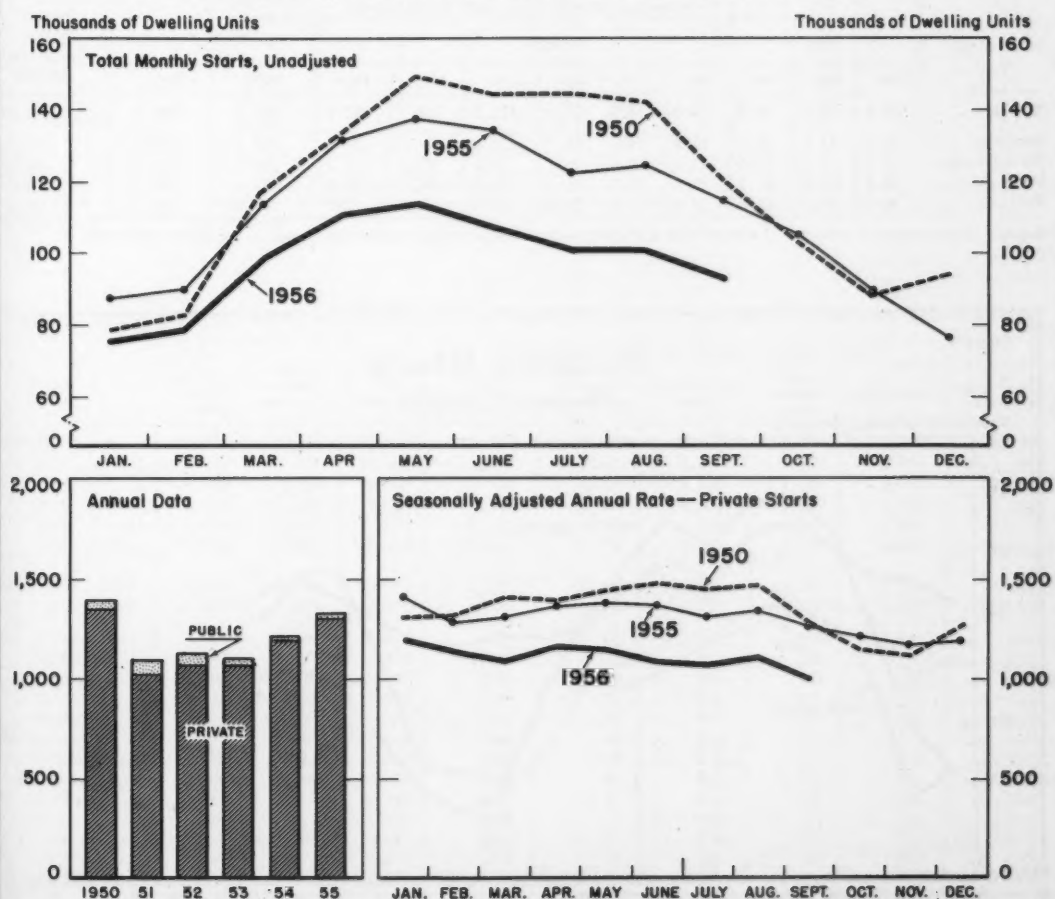
Table 7.--New Private Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started: Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate

Year	Number of new dwelling units (in thousands)											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1946.....	682	709	756	719	698	662	642	638	601	607	612	647
1947.....	694	720	696	710	749	802	847	899	981	1,018	1,013	962
1948.....	938	829	955	1,019	997	990	969	898	862	806	802	807
1949.....	800	796	814	885	905	929	964	1,028	1,094	1,156	1,240	1,250
1950.....	1,306	1,310	1,406	1,390	1,448	1,476	1,460	1,478	1,282	1,149	1,120	1,269
1951.....	1,343	1,156	1,068	990	983	948	925	961	1,052	1,002	976	967
1952.....	1,000	1,086	1,060	1,037	1,039	1,029	1,084	1,075	1,099	1,121	1,100	1,092
1953.....	1,102	1,083	1,122	1,134	1,097	1,082	1,045	1,021	1,024	1,026	1,050	1,032
1954.....	1,056	1,081	1,086	1,121	1,111	1,175	1,221	1,244	1,260	1,275	1,377	1,458
1955.....	1,416	1,286	1,314	1,374	1,398	1,371	1,318	1,346	1,262	1,209	1,179	1,192
1956.....	1,195	1,127	1,094	1,157	1,146	1,091	1,070	1,110	1,000			

Source: Department of Labor.

Chart 3.

Housing Starts (UNADJUSTED AND SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C.D.-56-10-C

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 8.—New Private 1-Family Houses Started: Average Construction Cost

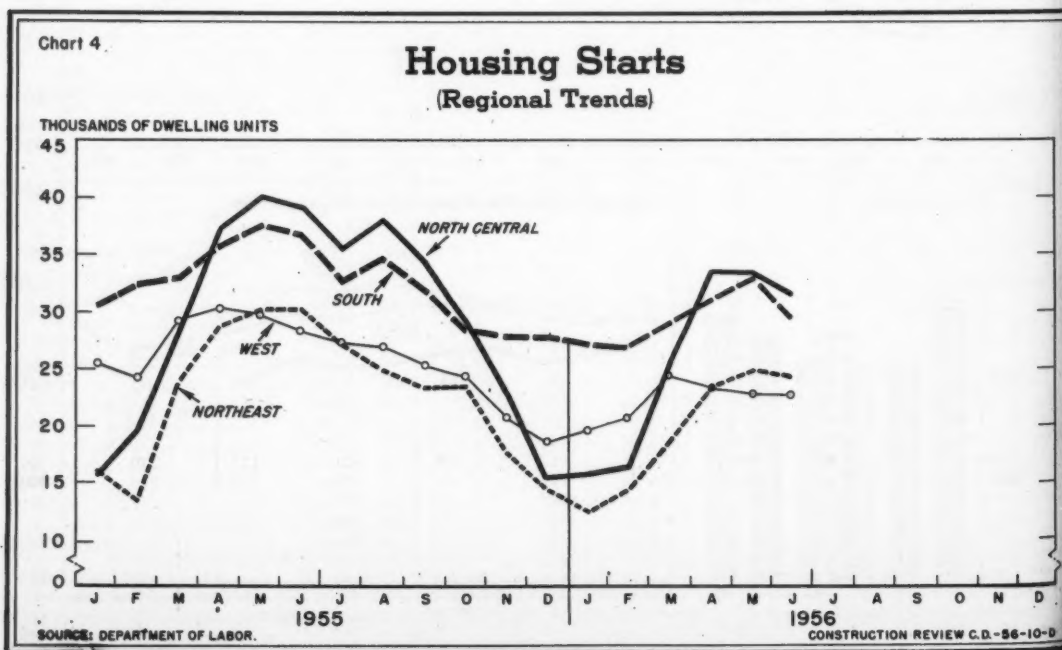
Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
AVERAGE CONSTRUCTION COST													
1946.....	\$5,250	\$5,400	\$5,850	\$5,575	\$5,475	\$5,425	\$5,375	\$5,450	\$5,450	\$5,625	\$5,675	\$5,575	\$5,525
1947.....	5,700	5,825	6,150	6,275	6,250	6,450	6,725	6,950	7,025	7,275	7,525	7,650	6,750
1948.....	7,250	7,450	7,550	7,775	7,950	8,050	8,050	8,100	7,900	7,825	7,900	7,900	7,850
1949.....	7,650	7,525	7,450	7,500	7,650	7,675	7,525	7,650	7,725	7,675	7,675	7,625	7,625
1950.....	7,625	7,850	8,225	8,450	8,450	8,750	8,875	9,125	8,900	9,200	9,075	9,200	8,675
1951.....	9,100	9,250	9,175	9,325	9,475	9,475	9,400	9,300	9,450	9,225	9,250	9,125	9,300
1952.....	9,050	9,275	9,350	9,550	9,575	9,675	9,500	9,425	9,600	9,525	9,550	9,525	9,475
1953.....	9,400	9,600	9,800	10,000	9,900	10,000	10,125	10,175	10,200	10,175	9,975	10,000	9,950
1954.....	9,750	9,800	10,075	10,600	10,850	10,750	10,850	10,750	10,675	10,800	10,850	11,075	10,625
1955.....	10,575	11,125	11,250	11,250	11,400	11,400	11,475	11,425	11,525	11,575	11,575	11,625	11,350
1956.....	11,325	11,750	12,150	12,275	12,300	12,300	(1)	(1)	(1)				
Percent change, 1955 to 1956													
	+7.1	+5.6	+8.0	+9.1	+7.9	+7.9	--	--	--				

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Not yet available.Table 9.—New Nonfarm Dwelling Units Started, by Region ¹

Region	Number of new dwelling units (in thousands)										First 6 months		Percent change, 1st 6 mos. 1955-56
	1955			1956									
	June	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	1955	1956		
TOTAL	134.5	89.2	76.2	75.0	78.3	98.6	111.3	113.7	107.4	695.4	584.3	-16.0	
Northeast	30.2	17.7	14.3	12.4	14.4	18.9	23.4	24.7	24.2	142.2	118.0	-17.0	
North Central....	39.3	23.0	15.6	15.7	16.4	26.1	33.6	33.3	31.2	180.0	156.3	-13.2	
South	36.6	27.8	27.7	27.3	26.8	29.2	31.0	32.8	29.3	205.6	176.4	-14.2	
West	28.4	20.7	18.6	19.6	20.7	24.4	23.3	22.9	22.7	167.6	133.6	-20.3	

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown below table 2.

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Table 10.—New Private Nonfarm Dwelling Units: Mortgages Applied for, Appraisals Requested, and Units Started Under FHA and VA Programs

Period	FHA-assisted units		VA-assisted units		Nonfarm dwelling units started		
	In applications	Started (in thousands)	In appraisal requests	Started (in thousands)	U. S. total	FHA- assisted	VA- assisted
	NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS				PERCENT DISTRIBUTION		
Year: 1950	625,343	486.7	(1)	200.0	100	36	15
1951	267,127	263.5	164,365	148.6	100	26	15
1952	323,753	280.0	226,299	141.3	100	26	13
1953	327,323	252.0	251,437	156.6	100	24	15
1954	383,334	276.3	535,412	307.0	100	23	26
1955	314,888	277.1	620,776	391.8	100	21	30
First 9 mos., 1955	264,448	224.5	522,344	308.3	100	22	30
First 9 mos., 1956	181,689	152.7	330,872	213.9	100	18	25
1955: September	23,840	24.7	45,063	34.4	100	22	30
October	19,836	18.6	43,143	34.8	100	18	33
November	16,921	17.5	30,397	28.1	100	20	32
December	13,683	16.2	24,892	21.6	100	22	29
1956: January	16,181	13.0	29,284	23.0	100	18	31
February	20,189	13.1	37,134	17.4	100	17	23
March	26,376	17.0	37,511	20.6	100	18	22
April	23,755	19.9	45,769	26.4	100	18	24
May	24,278	19.7	44,395	26.6	100	18	24
June	18,331	18.5	35,620	26.4	100	18	25
July	19,484	17.6	34,634	25.2	100	18	25
August	19,070	18.7	36,518	24.4	100	19	24
September	14,029	15.2	30,007	24.0	100	17	27
	Percent change						
First 9 mos., 1955-56..	-31	-32	-37	-31			

Source: Table compiled by Department of Labor from data reported by the Federal Housing Administration (FHFA) and the Veterans Administration.

¹ Not available.

Table 11.—Nonfarm Mortgage Recordings of \$20,000 or Less: Number and Average Amount, and Total Amount by Type of Lender

Period	Total number (in thousands)	Average amount (dollars)	Total amount (in millions of dollars) recorded by—						
			All lenders	Savings and loan associations	Insurance companies	Commercial banks	Mutual savings banks	Individuals	All other lenders
Year: 1950	3,032	5,335	16,179	5,060	1,618	3,365	1,064	2,299	2,774
1951	2,878	5,701	16,405	5,295	1,615	3,370	1,013	2,539	2,572
1952	3,028	5,950	18,018	6,452	1,420	3,600	1,137	2,758	2,651
1953	3,164	6,241	19,747	7,365	1,480	3,680	1,327	2,841	3,055
1954	3,458	6,644	22,974	8,312	1,768	4,239	1,501	2,882	4,272
1955	3,913	7,279	28,484	10,452	1,932	5,617	1,858	3,362	5,265
First 8 mos., 1955 ..	2,637	7,232	19,071	7,205	1,316	3,649	1,185	2,233	3,484
First 8 mos., 1956 ..	2,456	7,499	18,418	6,529	1,230	3,768	1,177	2,393	3,322
1955: August	366	7,362	2,697	1,060	163	521	179	310	463
September	342	7,377	2,522	946	155	505	168	292	456
October	326	7,320	2,387	835	153	505	167	285	441
November	314	7,380	2,316	765	152	499	171	285	443
December	293	7,457	2,188	700	156	457	166	268	441
1956: January	275	7,483	2,059	665	148	435	131	275	406
February	278	7,368	2,050	700	136	421	127	270	395
March	309	7,360	2,271	816	152	468	128	300	408
April	303	7,494	2,269	827	148	470	128	295	401
May	324	7,511	2,434	872	159	508	152	318	425
June	319	7,583	2,417	877	165	494	162	309	410
July	312	7,621	2,374	851	159	464	168	307	425
August	336	7,562	2,544	921	163	508	181	319	452
	Percent change								
First 8 mos., 1955-56	-7	+4	-3	-9	-7	+3	-1	+7	-5

Source: Table compiled by Department of Labor from data reported by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

Part III—Building Permits

Table 12.—Building Permit Activity: Current Summary, by Type of Building Construction

Type of building construction	Valuation (in millions of dollars)						Percent change, Sept. 1955-56
	1956			1955	First 9 months		
	Sept.	Aug.	July	Sept.	1956	1955	
All building construction ¹	1,441.8	1,725.4	1,716.2	1,639.6	14,677.0	14,954.4	-12
Private	1,309.1	1,588.4	1,560.2	1,517.2	13,251.4	13,666.7	-14
Public	132.7	137.0	155.9	122.4	1,425.6	1,287.7	+ 8
New dwelling units ²	769.9	944.6	887.2	1,002.1	8,070.2	9,296.7	-23
Number of new dwelling units	(70,779)	(85,725)	(81,285)	(96,790)	(751,183)	(930,665)	(-27)
New nonresidential building	520.7	575.6	635.6	482.0	5,075.8	4,248.9	+ 8
Commercial buildings	160.7	187.6	192.8	149.8	1,607.6	1,417.9	+ 7
Stores and other mercantile buildings ...	75.9	92.4	81.4	81.6	775.8	777.1	- 7
All other commercial buildings	84.8	95.2	111.4	68.2	831.8	640.8	+24
Community buildings.....	182.9	190.4	208.4	172.6	1,691.3	1,493.2	+ 6
Industrial buildings.....	93.0	104.2	124.9	78.3	959.6	599.7	+19
All other nonresidential buildings	84.1	93.3	109.5	81.3	817.2	738.1	+ 3
Additions, alterations, and repairs	142.1	182.3	183.8	144.7	1,422.3	1,282.9	- 2

Source: Department of Labor.

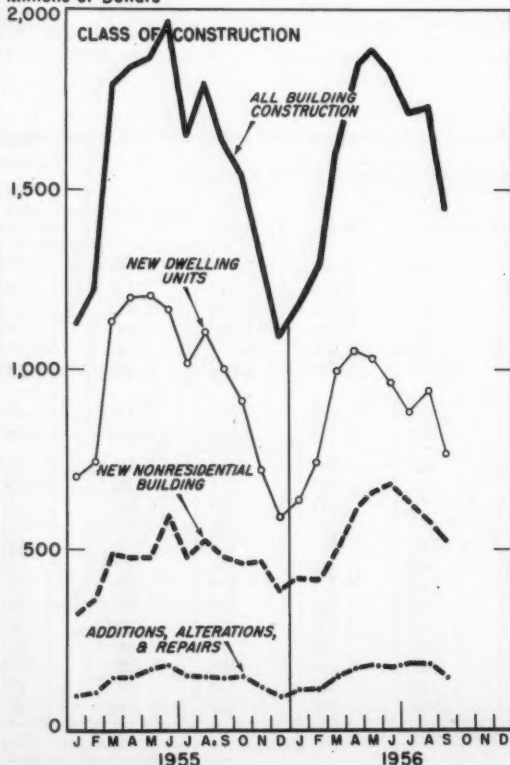
¹ Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately.

² Housekeeping only.

Chart 5

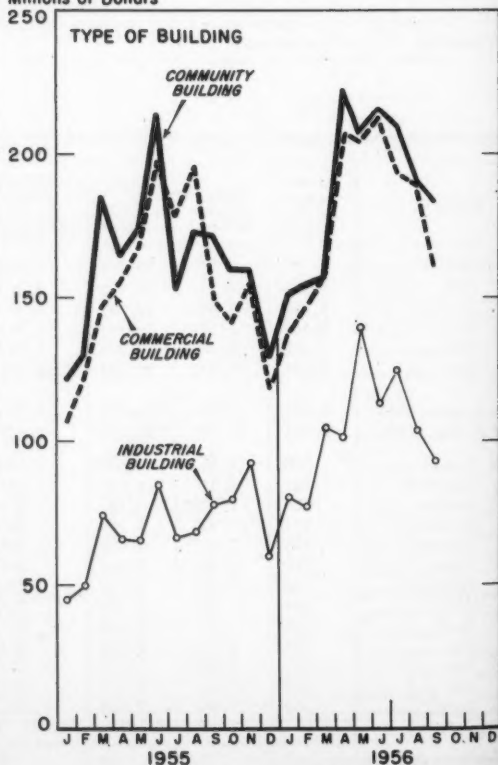
Building Permit Activity

Millions of Dollars



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

Millions of Dollars



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Table 13.—Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Type of Building Construction and Region¹

Type of building construction	Valuation (in millions of dollars)						Percent change, 1st 8 months 1955-56
	1955	1956			First 8 months		
	Aug.	June	July	Aug.	1955	1956	
UNITED STATES							
All building construction ²	1,797.5	1,841.9	1,716.2	1,725.4	13,314.8	13,235.2	- 1
New dwelling units ³	1,101.9	964.4	887.2	944.6	8,294.6	7,300.3	-12
New nonresidential building	528.1	694.8	635.6	575.6	3,766.9	4,555.1	+21
Commercial buildings	195.4	214.9	192.8	187.6	1,268.1	1,446.9	+14
Amusement buildings	7.5	10.7	12.3	7.5	74.9	78.0	+ 4
Commercial garages	8.5	6.8	7.0	5.1	45.6	41.9	- 8
Gasoline and service stations	14.5	15.2	13.7	15.4	95.6	108.2	+13
Office buildings	52.1	97.1	78.4	67.1	356.5	518.8	+46
Stores and other mercantile bldgs..	112.8	85.1	81.4	92.4	695.5	699.9	+ 1
Community buildings	174.1	215.8	208.4	190.4	1,320.6	1,508.4	+14
Educational buildings	107.2	149.6	110.7	102.6	836.0	954.8	+14
Institutional buildings	26.3	26.8	51.8	47.5	208.6	247.4	+19
Religious buildings	40.6	39.3	45.8	40.4	276.0	306.3	+11
Garages, private residential	20.9	20.6	21.8	23.9	125.0	136.0	+ 9
Industrial buildings	68.5	120.6	124.9	104.2	521.4	866.6	+66
Public buildings	30.6	67.2	30.5	20.6	226.1	223.4	- 1
Public utilities buildings	23.4	34.2	36.9	32.4	180.5	217.6	+21
All other nonresidential buildings	15.2	21.4	20.3	16.4	125.2	156.2	+25
Additions, alterations, and repairs	149.4	173.1	183.8	182.3	1,138.2	1,280.2	+12
Northeast							
All building construction ²	340.0	437.1	341.8	361.8	2,856.8	2,807.7	- 2
New dwelling units ³	221.7	224.6	186.5	193.5	1,785.8	1,549.8	-13
New nonresidential building	84.6	172.4	114.5	123.4	800.8	966.8	+21
Commercial buildings	30.1	63.8	36.7	51.1	258.3	308.8	+20
Amusement buildings .....	.4	2.8	1.7	1.5	11.6	17.0	+47
Commercial garages	1.2	1.4	2.3	2.1	12.2	14.0	+15
Gasoline and service stations	2.0	3.0	2.2	3.0	15.7	19.4	+24
Office buildings	9.7	39.5	18.3	28.7	98.3	136.7	+39
Stores and other mercantile bldgs..	16.6	17.0	12.2	15.8	120.7	121.7	+ 1
Community buildings	29.4	59.2	45.8	29.0	303.3	365.8	+21
Educational buildings	17.9	46.3	25.7	13.4	205.4	237.8	+16
Institutional buildings	2.8	5.8	13.1	4.7	36.5	63.3	+73
Religious buildings	8.7	7.2	7.0	10.8	61.4	64.6	+ 5
Garages, private residential	4.1	4.7	4.2	4.6	26.4	27.3	+ 3
Industrial buildings	12.9	26.8	16.1	28.1	124.8	172.1	+38
Public buildings	2.6	4.7	2.4	3.7	21.3	32.0	+50
Public utilities buildings	3.0	7.7	4.6	4.9	35.4	32.5	- 8
All other nonresidential buildings	2.5	5.5	4.7	2.1	31.1	28.5	- 8
Additions, alterations, and repairs	30.2	38.2	39.6	42.8	247.3	275.2	+11
North Central							
All building construction ²	608.8	566.8	555.8	548.2	3,987.8	4,041.2	+ 1
New dwelling units ³	376.6	319.6	292.2	306.4	2,497.7	2,293.8	- 8
New nonresidential building	187.0	197.2	208.8	186.6	1,162.0	1,373.8	+18
Commercial buildings	65.1	46.8	59.4	46.9	350.5	395.5	+13
Amusement buildings	1.8	4.9	6.4	1.8	25.2	23.8	- 6
Commercial garages	5.0	2.1	1.0	.7	14.8	8.9	-40
Gasoline and service stations	4.7	5.2	4.3	5.4	30.1	32.5	+ 8
Office buildings	15.3	12.0	27.5	16.1	82.2	133.8	+63
Stores and other mercantile bldgs..	38.3	22.6	20.1	23.0	198.1	196.5	- 1
Community buildings	65.5	68.9	76.5	65.9	419.2	456.8	+ 9
Educational buildings	40.2	44.6	37.7	42.4	258.4	293.9	+14
Institutional buildings	11.8	12.4	17.7	11.0	75.0	65.9	-12
Religious buildings	13.5	11.9	21.1	12.4	85.8	96.9	+13
Garages, private residential	12.1	11.9	12.4	14.0	64.8	72.9	+13
Industrial buildings	29.2	41.7	38.9	38.4	186.1	296.4	+59
Public buildings	4.5	11.1	7.2	5.9	59.5	44.4	-25
Public utilities buildings	7.3	13.3	10.9	12.9	64.8	77.6	+20
All other nonresidential buildings	3.2	3.6	3.6	2.6	17.0	30.3	+78
Additions, alterations, and repairs	41.3	47.5	52.0	52.6	310.7	352.4	+13

See footnotes at end of table.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 13.--Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Type of Building Construction and Region¹--Continued

Type of building construction	Valuation (in millions of dollars)						Percent change, 1st 8 months 1955-56
	1955	1956			First 8 months		
	Aug.	June	July	Aug.	1955	1956	
South							
All building construction ²	422.2	401.9	393.2	396.9	3,327.8	3,136.2	- 6
New dwelling units ³	239.5	198.6	200.1	213.5	1,951.3	1,688.0	-13
New nonresidential building	132.7	156.0	139.0	128.1	1,015.3	1,075.7	+ 6
Commercial buildings	54.5	52.6	49.9	41.6	382.5	414.0	+ 8
Amusement buildings	3.2	1.7	1.5	1.3	25.4	17.3	-32
Commercial garages	1.8	2.2	1.1	1.5	14.1	10.7	-24
Gasoline and service stations	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.5	31.0	37.0	+19
Office buildings	10.9	19.0	18.4	10.8	100.3	144.8	+44
Stores and other mercantile bldgs..	33.9	24.9	24.2	23.5	211.8	204.2	- 4
Community buildings	46.4	48.1	47.9	54.1	358.6	366.5	+ 2
Educational buildings	24.0	31.3	25.1	26.8	195.7	208.7	+ 7
Institutional buildings	8.3	5.8	11.1	16.8	68.7	67.0	- 2
Religious buildings	14.0	10.9	11.7	10.4	94.2	90.7	- 4
Garages, private residential	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.7	12.9	13.1	+ 2
Industrial buildings	14.0	20.3	16.9	13.1	89.7	126.1	+41
Public buildings	1.8	27.1	5.0	5.9	78.7	69.3	-12
Public utilities buildings	11.3	2.3	14.1	8.7	59.0	60.8	+ 3
All other nonresidential buildings	3.2	4.1	3.7	3.2	33.9	26.1	-23
Additions, alterations, and repairs	41.7	44.5	50.2	45.8	315.9	340.2	+ 8
West							
All building construction ²	426.5	436.0	425.4	418.5	3,142.5	3,250.1	+ 3
New dwelling units ³	264.2	221.6	208.3	231.2	2,059.8	1,768.8	-14
New nonresidential building	123.8	169.2	173.2	137.5	788.9	1,138.9	+44
Commercial buildings	45.7	51.8	46.9	48.0	276.7	328.6	+19
Amusement buildings	2.1	1.3	2.7	3.0	12.7	20.0	+57
Commercial garages .....	.5	1.1	2.6	.8	4.5	8.3	+84
Gasoline and service stations	2.9	2.1	2.5	2.6	18.9	19.3	+ 2
Office buildings	16.2	26.7	14.3	11.5	75.7	103.5	+37
Stores and other mercantile bldgs..	24.0	20.6	24.8	30.2	164.9	177.6	+ 8
Community buildings	32.8	39.6	38.2	41.5	239.5	319.5	+33
Educational buildings	25.1	27.4	22.2	19.9	176.5	214.3	+21
Institutional buildings	3.3	2.9	9.9	14.9	28.5	51.1	+79
Religious buildings	4.3	9.3	6.0	6.7	34.5	54.0	+57
Garages, private residential	3.0	2.6	3.7	3.6	20.9	22.7	+ 9
Industrial buildings	12.4	31.8	53.0	24.8	120.8	272.3	+125
Public buildings	21.7	24.3	15.9	5.1	66.5	77.7	+17
Public utilities buildings	1.8	10.9	7.2	6.0	21.3	46.9	+120
All other nonresidential buildings	6.4	8.2	6.3	8.5	43.2	71.3	+65
Additions, alterations, and repairs	36.3	42.9	42.0	41.1	264.3	312.5	+18

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown below table 2.

Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately.

² Housekeeping only.

Table 14.--Building Permit Activity: Number of Nonresidential Buildings, by Type of Building

Type of building construction	1955	1956							
	Aug.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Amusement buildings	185	105	143	186	284	286	277	265	260
Commercial garages	230	128	124	216	196	202	173	205	180
Educational buildings	404	388	396	463	419	498	561	469	437
Garages, private residential	25,366	6,758	7,214	14,234	22,588	25,136	23,403	24,702	27,337
Gasoline and service stations	945	643	757	843	940	1,024	974	901	980
Industrial buildings	1,237	1,080	1,091	1,349	1,550	1,487	1,369	1,187	1,235
Institutional buildings	106	62	52	78	83	79	88	122	105
Office buildings	631	512	582	715	742	710	711	636	681
Religious buildings	525	315	361	471	607	613	564	570	525
Stores & other mercantile bldgs.	3,265	2,137	2,566	3,160	3,504	3,446	2,839	2,947	2,870

Source: Department of Labor.

Table 15.—Building Permit Activity: Valuation and Number of New Dwelling Units, by Type of Structure, Public-Private Ownership, and Region¹

(Housekeeping units only)

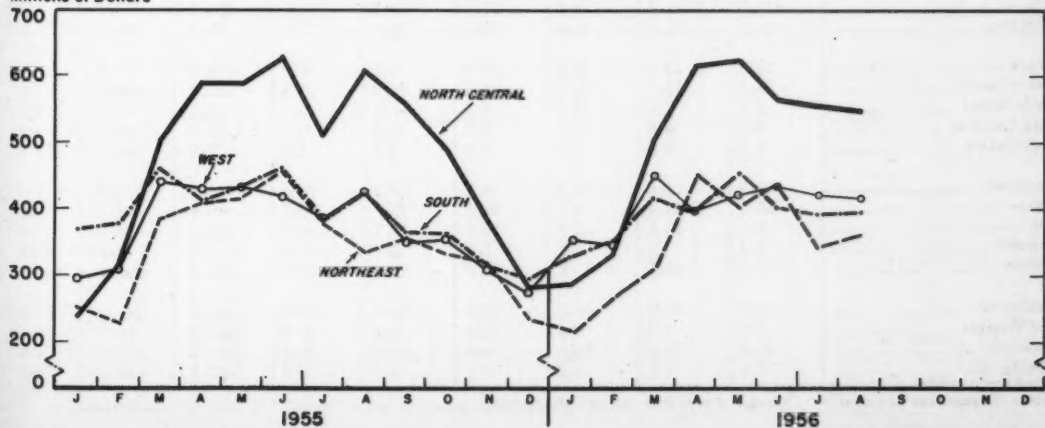
Ownership and type of structure	Valuation (in millions of dollars)					Number of dwelling units				
	1955		1956		First 8 months	1955		1956		First 8 months
	Aug.	July	Aug.	July	1955	Aug.	July	Aug.	July	1955
UNITED STATES										
All new dwelling units..	1,101.9	887.2	944.6	8,294.6	7,300.3	108,184	81,285	85,725	833,875	680,404
Privately owned	1,083.7	881.1	940.1	8,185.6	7,175.9	106,353	80,530	85,127	822,238	668,118
1-family	1,016.6	824.6	867.4	7,649.5	6,680.5	95,379	71,881	74,845	736,253	592,306
2-4 family	24.8	25.3	26.3	212.4	210.4	3,824	3,617	3,684	33,762	30,956
5-or-more family	42.3	31.4	46.4	323.7	285.1	7,150	5,032	6,598	52,223	44,856
Publicly owned	18.2	6.1	4.5	109.0	124.4	1,831	755	598	11,673	12,286
Northeast										
All new dwelling units..	221.7	186.5	193.5	1,785.8	1,549.8	21,386	16,792	17,336	174,531	140,451
Privately owned	219.6	180.6	189.8	1,733.0	1,484.4	21,108	16,057	16,854	168,738	133,799
1-family	197.7	171.7	176.1	1,558.0	1,374.3	18,423	14,932	14,855	145,899	118,789
2-4 family	4.3	6.2	4.6	42.6	48.1	612	823	647	6,098	6,544
5-or-more family	17.5	2.7	9.0	132.3	62.0	2,073	302	1,352	16,741	8,466
Publicly owned	2.1	6.0	3.8	52.8	65.4	278	735	482	5,793	6,652
North Central										
All new dwelling units..	376.6	292.2	306.4	2,497.7	2,293.8	32,840	23,090	23,961	215,862	183,850
Privately owned	360.8	292.2	306.4	2,465.8	2,260.6	31,331	23,090	23,961	212,660	180,668
1-family	347.2	279.8	289.0	2,365.4	2,157.4	29,209	21,522	22,050	200,065	168,844
2-4 family	7.7	6.3	9.6	60.3	62.3	826	620	997	6,773	6,506
5-or-more family	6.0	6.1	7.7	40.2	40.9	1,296	948	914	5,822	5,318
Publicly owned	15.7	0	0	31.9	33.2	1,509	0	0	3,202	3,182
South										
All new dwelling units..	239.5	200.1	213.5	1,951.3	1,688.0	26,941	21,150	22,011	226,098	179,607
Privately owned	239.3	200.1	212.8	1,939.9	1,671.3	26,917	21,150	21,896	224,798	177,941
1-family	227.5	187.2	194.8	1,843.5	1,566.9	24,428	18,952	19,613	203,966	160,413
2-4 family	5.2	4.5	4.1	44.2	36.9	1,096	841	797	9,558	7,370
5-or-more family	6.6	8.5	14.0	52.2	67.5	1,393	1,357	1,486	11,274	10,158
Publicly owned	0.2	0	0.7	11.5	16.7	24	0	115	1,300	1,666
West										
All new dwelling units..	264.2	208.3	231.2	2,059.8	1,768.8	27,017	20,253	22,417	217,384	176,496
Privately owned	264.0	208.2	231.1	2,046.9	1,759.6	26,997	20,233	22,416	216,042	175,710
1-family	244.1	185.9	207.5	1,882.6	1,581.8	23,319	16,475	18,327	186,323	144,260
2-4 family	7.6	8.2	8.0	65.3	63.2	1,290	1,333	1,243	11,333	10,536
5-or-more family	12.3	14.0	15.6	99.0	114.6	2,388	2,425	2,846	18,386	20,914
Publicly owned	0.2	0.2	(2)	12.8	9.1	20	20	1	1,342	786

Source: Department of Labor.
than \$50,000.¹ Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown below table 2. ² Less

Chart 6.

Building Permit Activity, By Regions

Millions of Dollars



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

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CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 16.—Building Permit Activity: Valuation, by Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Location and by State

State	(Millions of dollars)								Percent change, 1st. 7 mos. 1955-56
	1955	1956						First 7 months	
	July	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	1955	1956	
ALL STATES	1,657.3	1,677.1	1,863.0	1,902.1	1,841.9	1,716.2	11,511.7	11,509.8	(1)
Metropolitan areas	1,325.5	1,302.8	1,441.7	1,504.3	1,453.6	1,329.7	9,245.8	9,013.5	- 3
Nonmetropolitan areas	331.8	374.3	421.3	397.8	388.3	386.5	2,265.9	2,496.3	+10
Alabama	13.4	15.1	13.9	17.0	14.5	15.6	98.8	104.0	+ 5
Arizona	11.2	15.7	12.2	19.3	18.4	16.7	98.5	111.7	+13
Arkansas	4.0	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.0	4.3	32.3	35.1	+ 9
California	266.2	314.9	269.8	286.7	281.9	314.1	1,870.0	1,964.4	+ 5
Colorado	27.9	22.8	25.5	20.7	28.8	17.9	170.8	157.6	- 8
Connecticut	31.3	22.0	37.6	37.9	41.1	30.9	218.4	218.1	(1)
Delaware	8.1	3.7	5.2	5.0	6.3	3.8	38.9	32.8	-16
District of Columbia	4.9	5.4	3.1	5.5	4.5	6.1	66.6	29.8	-55
Florida	56.8	70.1	69.1	73.8	75.0	72.9	436.5	492.9	+13
Georgia	28.8	24.6	20.0	26.7	23.2	24.2	167.1	157.0	- 6
Idaho	3.0	3.9	4.4	6.3	3.6	3.1	20.7	23.7	+14
Illinois	109.2	137.4	138.5	138.6	125.0	119.2	748.1	822.5	+10
Indiana	38.2	30.8	39.9	45.2	41.0	38.4	227.9	255.4	+12
Iowa	16.2	16.2	21.1	21.4	18.9	14.9	110.9	107.3	- 3
Kansas	12.9	20.4	14.6	13.2	10.9	13.0	121.0	94.0	-22
Kentucky	17.5	13.0	19.4	20.0	14.1	22.3	100.3	106.0	+ 6
Louisiana	19.9	27.8	27.6	30.5	20.5	21.5	186.1	173.9	- 7
Maine	2.4	1.4	2.8	4.6	4.5	3.9	15.1	21.0	+39
Maryland	39.2	41.6	39.5	46.1	40.1	32.9	321.4	257.6	-20
Massachusetts	46.9	36.9	50.2	45.1	39.2	46.4	272.0	274.9	+ 1
Michigan	101.1	89.3	119.4	124.5	98.2	114.7	655.0	665.5	+ 2
Minnesota	33.7	26.2	46.0	51.9	41.0	35.8	241.3	229.2	- 5
Mississippi	4.0	4.9	6.2	5.0	3.8	5.1	31.8	32.7	+ 3
Missouri	30.5	31.5	37.4	26.6	28.4	27.7	199.7	189.4	- 5
Montana	4.8	5.6	3.4	5.0	5.5	4.2	23.5	26.1	+11
Nebraska	7.2	7.8	8.9	7.2	8.0	10.2	63.4	50.4	-21
Nevada	6.0	6.1	5.1	3.9	3.1	2.6	48.2	27.6	-43
New Hampshire	6.3	2.0	4.2	6.2	3.8	3.6	24.3	22.0	- 9
New Jersey	85.2	70.1	90.9	83.8	72.4	64.0	502.1	495.3	- 1
New Mexico	5.9	5.7	6.1	6.8	5.9	6.6	54.9	43.8	-20
New York	122.4	111.5	167.3	133.8	166.6	116.3	907.8	873.1	- 4
North Carolina	19.0	21.3	19.1	29.5	17.5	20.4	139.4	142.9	+ 3
North Dakota	3.2	.9	7.1	5.0	6.6	3.9	21.7	24.3	+12
Ohio	112.7	101.1	119.8	132.0	139.8	135.8	704.1	758.8	+ 8
Oklahoma	12.9	11.6	11.4	13.9	13.5	12.0	99.0	83.3	-16
Oregon	16.2	14.5	16.9	23.9	21.1	16.9	100.0	115.8	+16
Pennsylvania	74.6	68.3	94.9	84.1	93.9	67.8	540.1	496.1	- 8
Rhode Island	3.7	2.9	4.7	4.4	14.1	8.5	29.8	40.2	+35
South Carolina	6.7	6.6	6.5	7.7	6.0	6.5	58.8	48.3	-18
South Dakota	4.4	3.4	4.7	4.5	5.3	3.3	22.0	24.4	+11
Tennessee	20.5	19.9	21.4	20.3	19.1	24.4	136.7	134.8	- 1
Texas	88.1	88.4	77.1	84.3	75.1	78.1	649.3	572.7	-12
Utah	9.3	12.0	11.3	12.0	13.1	8.7	72.2	96.4	+34
Vermont	3.2	.3	.7	1.9	1.5	.5	7.1	5.4	-24
Virginia	33.5	46.1	45.0	58.0	55.5	37.3	296.6	296.4	(1)
Washington	34.3	46.3	39.2	35.9	51.7	32.8	244.8	249.3	+ 2
West Virginia	5.4	4.7	6.0	6.2	7.9	5.9	40.9	39.3	- 4
Wisconsin	41.5	35.6	59.6	52.6	43.6	38.9	263.1	272.1	+ 3
Wyoming	2.9	3.0	2.2	2.1	3.1	1.8	12.3	14.8	+20

Source: Department of Labor.

¹Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

Table 17.—Building Permit Activity: Number of New Dwelling Units, by Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Location and by State

State	(Housekeeping units only)								
	1955	1956					First 7 months		Percent change, 1st 7 mos. 1955-56
	July	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	1955	1956	
ALL STATES	98,319	94,623	98,116	96,114	88,333	81,285	725,324	594,679	-18
Metropolitan areas	77,894	73,636	74,414	73,941	67,768	61,615	578,284	456,156	-21
Nonmetropolitan areas	20,425	20,987	23,702	22,173	20,565	19,670	147,040	138,523	-6
Alabama	1,264	1,131	994	1,252	1,078	1,029	8,397	7,397	-12
Arizona	766	1,267	887	1,334	826	1,015	8,810	7,263	-18
Arkansas	278	465	402	306	274	327	2,722	2,287	-16
California	17,888	18,869	16,382	16,045	14,885	15,009	135,194	111,921	-17
Colorado	1,544	1,595	1,541	1,492	1,667	1,059	12,716	9,513	-25
Connecticut	1,888	1,270	1,812	1,861	2,014	1,595	11,536	10,438	-10
Delaware	550	215	166	316	190	2,746	1,709	1,709	-38
District of Columbia	192	375	79	317	128	107	2,231	1,081	-52
Florida	3,843	5,027	4,929	5,043	4,623	4,672	32,061	33,917	+6
Georgia	1,715	1,627	1,559	1,628	1,411	1,469	12,788	10,665	-17
Idaho	147	133	188	196	158	126	1,146	901	-21
Illinois	5,631	6,725	6,659	5,944	5,970	4,954	40,998	37,232	-9
Indiana	2,105	1,626	2,064	1,981	1,736	1,782	12,985	12,375	-5
Iowa	895	827	1,085	982	1,130	734	6,059	5,407	-11
Kansas	956	963	847	845	676	659	7,011	5,366	-23
Kentucky	1,163	872	1,150	1,006	894	1,099	7,410	5,983	-19
Louisiana	1,072	1,077	1,552	1,146	763	995	9,147	7,184	-21
Maine	136	67	158	238	173	158	839	841	(1)
Maryland	2,095	2,499	2,572	2,195	1,922	2,078	19,803	14,594	-26
Massachusetts	2,069	1,995	2,339	2,658	2,124	1,986	15,564	14,119	-9
Michigan	5,559	5,061	5,687	4,650	4,975	4,434	37,468	31,227	-17
Minnesota	1,800	1,281	2,088	1,960	1,571	1,571	11,540	9,572	-17
Mississippi	312	295	238	255	276	217	2,311	1,887	-18
Missouri	1,717	1,450	1,568	1,307	1,244	1,007	10,917	8,544	-22
Montana	213	151	193	226	209	157	1,272	1,049	-18
Nebraska	522	589	569	463	479	416	3,838	3,001	-22
Nevada	374	491	353	204	89	100	2,519	1,610	-36
New Hampshire	206	107	202	263	195	236	1,309	1,130	-14
New Jersey	5,497	4,046	4,529	4,699	3,887	4,092	33,261	27,729	-17
New Mexico	516	385	425	411	425	468	4,160	2,670	-36
New York	7,903	6,821	7,332	6,826	7,816	5,695	59,012	44,767	-24
North Carolina	995	1,126	1,051	1,121	854	931	8,512	7,106	-17
North Dakota	161	40	261	215	204	174	981	926	-6
Ohio	5,510	4,455	5,334	5,523	5,971	5,547	37,025	32,296	-13
Oklahoma	777	706	684	700	754	658	6,719	4,729	-30
Oregon	914	680	738	923	633	579	5,007	4,416	-12
Pennsylvania	4,309	3,635	4,388	4,241	3,520	2,703	29,218	22,092	-24
Rhode Island	293	257	311	326	294	293	2,212	1,808	-18
South Carolina	414	428	350	376	299	287	3,375	2,564	-24
South Dakota	207	140	221	204	161	162	1,424	973	-32
Tennessee	1,443	1,260	1,240	1,131	1,082	1,032	11,394	7,721	-32
Texas	5,062	5,048	4,198	4,437	3,600	3,753	45,898	29,515	-36
Utah	576	753	583	733	815	448	4,564	4,237	-7
Vermont	34	12	42	48	29	34	194	191	-2
Virginia	2,681	2,613	3,024	3,702	2,380	2,003	21,286	17,374	-18
Washington	1,906	1,668	1,744	1,568	1,550	1,221	14,211	9,773	-31
West Virginia	300	308	334	313	284	303	1,990	1,883	-5
Wisconsin	1,787	2,036	2,789	2,553	1,880	1,650	12,776	13,010	+2
Wyoming	134	156	123	101	89	71	768	686	-11

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

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Table 18.--Building Permit Activity: Valuation, in Selected Metropolitan Areas

Metropolitan area	(Millions of dollars)								Percent change, 1st 7 mos. 1955-56
	1955	1956					First 7 months		
	July	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	1955	1956	
Atlanta, Ga.	18.3	12.0	11.5	17.5	12.0	11.4	106.8	86.7	-19
Baltimore, Md.	22.2	21.7	19.2	16.3	22.1	14.8	173.6	127.3	-27
Birmingham, Ala.	5.3	8.0	6.0	7.7	6.0	6.9	41.8	45.1	+ 8
Boston, Mass.	24.3	17.7	28.5	25.3	20.0	29.3	150.6	148.3	- 2
Buffalo, N. Y.	19.8	23.3	15.1	14.3	18.6	17.1	99.8	102.7	+ 3
Chicago, Ill.	97.3	118.6	122.9	124.0	110.5	107.3	663.7	734.8	+11
Cleveland, Ohio	37.2	38.3	39.0	39.4	40.9	47.4	210.6	247.8	+18
Columbus, Ohio	13.3	9.1	13.3	17.1	12.7	15.1	83.1	85.3	+ 3
Denver, Colo.	12.7	14.4	17.8	12.8	11.7	9.7	105.6	95.0	-10
Detroit, Mich.	66.3	61.1	69.1	87.7	64.0	59.7	438.7	428.9	- 2
Indianapolis, Ind.	11.2	7.7	9.4	18.9	9.3	9.3	65.9	69.5	+ 5
Los Angeles, Calif.	119.9	159.3	125.5	142.4	146.2	146.4	942.4	988.8	+ 5
Memphis, Tenn.	7.0	6.4	6.7	5.2	5.6	7.3	52.1	42.7	-18
Miami, Fla.	16.4	23.1	23.1	28.3	27.7	24.6	158.3	162.0	+ 2
Milwaukee, Wis.	15.7	16.2	21.5	25.0	15.5	16.3	105.8	114.5	+ 8
New York-Northeastern New Jersey	126.3	115.5	175.9	143.0	169.6	112.6	946.8	927.2	- 2
Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.	4.6	5.5	4.0	15.8	11.4	6.0	44.9	49.9	+11
Phoenix, Ariz.	7.3	10.7	7.5	11.1	13.3	9.8	68.1	72.6	+ 7
Rochester, N. Y.	8.6	4.6	7.2	7.2	5.8	7.8	54.5	38.2	-30
Salt Lake City, Utah	4.4	6.3	5.6	5.5	8.5	5.0	35.4	39.7	+12
San Diego, Calif.	13.7	22.4	15.6	16.4	17.0	15.7	103.0	109.8	+ 7
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.	56.8	45.3	46.3	46.0	46.0	38.8	308.8	291.1	- 6
Seattle, Wash.	14.1	13.6	18.5	12.0	24.0	12.4	109.7	100.1	- 9
Washington, D. C.	27.1	27.8	32.0	40.4	26.7	29.3	265.3	196.7	-26

Source: Department of Labor.

Table 19.--Building Permit Activity: Number of New Dwelling Units, in Selected Metropolitan Areas

Metropolitan area	(Housekeeping only)								Percent change, 1st 7 mos. 1955-56
	1955	1956					First 7 months		
	July	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	1955	1956	
Atlanta, Ga.	990	980	922	966	754	895	7,512	6,125	-18
Baltimore, Md.	1,050	1,471	1,220	1,013	992	1,083	9,861	7,495	-24
Birmingham, Ala.	412	447	355	473	339	369	3,254	2,677	-18
Boston, Mass.	1,071	836	997	1,280	884	866	7,220	6,106	-15
Buffalo, N. Y.	1,483	1,517	900	943	1,007	878	7,091	6,038	-15
Chicago, Ill.	4,963	5,863	5,689	5,117	5,204	4,335	36,450	32,493	-11
Cleveland, Ohio	1,555	1,188	1,218	1,173	1,304	1,633	9,712	8,044	-17
Columbus, Ohio	771	491	625	649	785	736	4,805	4,193	-13
Denver, Colo.	981	1,068	1,021	957	702	662	8,821	5,842	-34
Detroit, Mich.	3,358	3,669	3,466	2,864	3,161	2,836	24,640	20,509	-17
Indianapolis, Ind.	646	407	473	742	443	520	3,732	3,091	-17
Los Angeles, Calif.	8,102	8,916	8,115	7,879	7,174	7,378	68,124	57,092	-16
Memphis, Tenn.	595	415	416	374	295	305	5,158	2,576	-50
Miami, Fla.	1,086	1,677	1,557	1,562	1,573	1,205	10,243	10,187	- 1
Milwaukee, Wis.	679	921	1,008	1,091	790	497	4,965	5,373	+ 8
New York-Northeastern New Jersey	7,745	6,644	7,618	7,267	8,062	5,775	61,366	46,655	-24
Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.	534	338	277	1,379	313	275	4,187	3,077	-27
Phoenix, Ariz.	503	922	587	916	535	653	6,508	4,965	-24
Rochester, N. Y.	501	257	294	362	307	312	3,073	1,879	-39
Salt Lake City, Utah	296	374	316	319	487	209	2,527	2,316	- 8
San Diego, Calif.	1,057	1,336	1,139	1,113	1,031	1,044	6,886	7,469	+ 8
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.	3,199	2,829	2,264	2,074	2,094	1,934	20,442	14,294	-30
Seattle, Wash.	929	747	821	686	622	531	6,522	4,529	-31
Washington, D. C.	1,604	1,544	2,322	1,898	1,400	1,421	15,220	10,656	-30

Source: Department of Labor.

Table 20.—Building Permit Activity: Valuation in Selected Metropolitan Areas by Type of Building Construction

July 1956 (Thousands of dollars)

Type of building construction	Atlanta, Ga.	Baltimore, Md.	Birmingham, Ala.	Boston, Mass.	Buffalo, N. Y.	Chicago, Ill.	Cleveland, Ohio	Columbus, Ohio
All building construction ¹	11,423	14,837	6,882	29,303	17,068	107,319	47,391	15,054
New dwelling units ²	7,921	10,304	3,051	10,123	9,537	63,987	22,999	9,848
New nonresidential building	2,231	2,725	2,681	15,776	6,439	35,168	21,051	3,822
Commercial buildings	794	1,031	581	3,772	750	5,863	14,869	1,994
Amusement buildings	8	79	0	90	0	1,131	1,803	23
Commercial garages	20	0	3	1,274	61	105	18	19
Gasoline and service stations	135	105	151	106	95	413	149	98
Office buildings	290	322	214	83	66	2,176	10,721	386
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	342	525	212	2,220	529	2,038	2,178	1,469
Community buildings	594	824	2,026	7,696	2,683	17,449	2,869	1,506
Educational buildings	242	785	1,851	3,083	2,255	6,536	2,569	515
Institutional buildings	68	0	0	4,123	316	4,700	0	0
Religious buildings	285	38	175	490	112	6,213	300	991
Garages, private residential	29	93	22	166	525	2,581	862	179
Industrial buildings	557	19	50	2,652	980	3,259	2,264	73
Public buildings	0	12	0	266	115	339	64	0
Public utilities buildings	250	541	0	1,207	337	4,507	106	36
All other nonresidential buildings	6	205	1	17	1,048	1,170	18	35
Additions, alterations, and repairs	1,196	1,770	1,083	3,398	1,037	7,330	2,879	1,383
	Denver, Colo.	Detroit, Mich.	Indianapolis, Ind.	Los Angeles, Calif.	Memphis, Tenn.	Miami, Fla.	Milwaukee, Wis.	New York-Northeastern New Jersey
All building construction ¹	9,737	59,686	9,253	146,440	7,314	24,595	16,257	112,553
New dwelling units ²	6,757	35,067	6,197	80,051	2,141	11,897	6,456	67,196
New nonresidential building	1,668	18,587	2,576	51,239	4,407	8,239	8,340	33,291
Commercial buildings	780	5,154	765	17,729	499	3,368	1,222	18,360
Amusement buildings	3	503	17	1,427	6	51	2	598
Commercial garages	7	65	21	1,087	0	550	0	283
Gasoline and service stations	164	624	182	339	92	230	105	375
Office buildings	485	544	425	5,307	0	610	883	12,755
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	122	3,417	121	9,569	402	1,927	233	4,349
Community buildings	113	5,140	444	11,324	117	2,820	2,078	8,331
Educational buildings	16	4,536	0	6,918	0	2,375	619	6,202
Institutional buildings	0	17	0	3,311	0	409	1,064	700
Religious buildings	97	587	444	1,095	117	36	395	1,429
Garages, private residential	256	2,551	135	1,223	68	71	508	821
Industrial buildings	374	2,113	1,230	11,901	0	345	3,876	4,454
Public buildings	90	2,762	0	683	36	30	50	199
Public utilities buildings	0	751	3	4,458	3,641	1,250	425	649
All other nonresidential buildings	56	117	0	3,921	46	354	181	477
Additions, alterations, and repairs	1,312	5,293	480	15,126	765	3,206	1,460	11,917
	Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.	Phoenix, Ariz.	Rochester, N. Y.	Salt Lake City, Utah	San Diego, Calif.	San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.	Seattle, Wash.	Washington, D. C.
All building construction ¹	6,004	9,796	7,770	4,961	15,708	38,761	12,408	29,302
New dwelling units ²	2,291	5,203	4,089	2,516	10,684	21,850	6,117	15,855
New nonresidential building	3,051	3,508	2,988	1,183	3,755	11,058	4,486	8,640
Commercial buildings	1,411	1,094	1,277	388	952	2,821	1,637	3,641
Amusement buildings	51	278	137	0	35	13	170	553
Commercial garages	15	15	14	0	105	33	65	44
Gasoline and service stations	13	34	136	79	66	199	215	155
Office buildings	58	293	990	80	440	926	702	1,287
Stores and other mercantile bldgs.	1,274	473	0	229	305	1,651	484	1,604
Community buildings	1,515	2,192	485	200	1,009	3,719	731	3,950
Educational buildings	1,469	383	0	0	155	1,221	611	3,586
Institutional buildings	0	1,426	0	0	170	2,138	0	0
Religious buildings	46	383	485	200	684	360	120	364
Garages, private residential	47	13	160	91	278	238	75	58
Industrial buildings	6	142	599	434	728	2,644	1,797	155
Public buildings	0	0	443	0	318	66	0	0
Public utilities buildings	0	0	3	0	0	176	19	700
All other nonresidential buildings	72	67	21	70	472	1,393	227	136
Additions, alterations, and repairs	372	878	692	1,262	1,254	5,337	1,805	4,778

Source: Department of Labor. ¹ Includes new nonhousekeeping residential building, not shown separately.² Housekeeping only.

Part IV--Contract Awards

Table 21.--Contract Awards: Public Construction, by Ownership and Type of Construction ¹

Ownership and type of construction ²	Value (in millions of dollars)									Percent change, 1st 8 months 1955-56
	1955	1956						First 8 months		
	Aug.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	1955	1956	
ALL PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION	723.5	878.4	920.1	852.7	1,086.6	1,079.6	816.0	5,944.1	7,089.3	+19
FEDERALLY OWNED	60.6	178.8	208.2	163.0	327.8	164.3	91.2	984.9	1,367.5	+39
Residential building	1.3	7.6	7.1	9.3	12.0	.4	1.0	24.4	53.1	+118
Nonresidential building	36.6	88.3	112.7	77.7	163.6	41.2	46.4	627.1	618.0	- 1
Educational.....	.2	3.0	2.9	.5	4.3	2.3	.7	3.9	13.9	+256
Hospital and institutional	4.0	4.5	3.5	10.9	5.2	3.4	1.7	72.1	35.0	-51
Administrative and general	2.4	8.4	6.5	17.0	20.5	6.1	3.2	31.4	68.7	+119
Other nonresidential building	30.0	72.4	99.8	49.3	133.6	29.4	40.8	519.7	500.4	- 4
Airfield building .....	.4	8.4	4.2	6.6	8.8	4.1	3.9	88.4	55.1	-38
Industrial	10.3	41.9	38.4	21.0	44.5	9.3	25.9	219.0	197.9	-10
Troop housing	3.1	1.6	8.1	1.2	40.1	6.1	1.8	39.7	78.8	+98
Warehouses.....	9.6	2.5	32.6	4.9	4.0	4.5	1.6	71.2	52.6	-26
All other	6.6	18.0	16.5	15.6	36.2	5.4	7.6	101.4	116.0	+14
Airfields	3.6	7.5	17.2	7.5	17.7	6.1	7.5	102.5	96.0	- 6
Conservation and development	8.9	66.9	51.1	28.6	41.6	54.8	22.5	128.6	335.8	+161
Highway	4.8	2.9	4.8	6.6	17.3	4.9	3.0	41.8	50.1	+20
Electric power	1.8	2.1	5.0	28.2	64.3	53.0	2.9	23.1	163.0	(3)
All other federally owned.....	3.6	3.5	10.3	5.1	11.3	3.9	7.9	37.4	51.5	+38
STATE AND LOCALLY OWNED.....	662.9	699.6	711.9	689.7	758.8	915.3	724.8	4,959.2	5,721.8	+15
Residential building	27.5	38.8	18.3	21.1	22.7	21.4	12.3	147.7	167.1	+13
Nonresidential building	219.0	279.4	296.8	295.1	287.5	284.4	286.7	1,933.2	2,170.8	+12
Educational	146.2	215.4	204.1	205.9	184.1	199.2	192.9	1,406.3	1,539.5	+ 9
Hospital and institutional	14.0	12.4	25.0	34.3	28.0	24.2	15.6	134.6	184.4	+37
Administrative and general.....	35.5	32.6	30.6	21.8	40.1	26.1	54.2	185.5	233.1	+26
Other nonresidential building.....	23.3	19.0	37.1	33.1	35.3	34.9	24.0	206.8	213.8	+ 3
Highway	282.0	279.0	265.3	249.1	305.1	349.3	271.9	1,925.7	2,200.3	+14
Sewerage systems	43.2	42.9	51.3	45.0	60.1	49.3	74.9	322.6	468.6	+45
Water supply facilities	39.4	30.6	38.3	33.3	44.0	76.2	28.9	226.9	307.1	+35
Utilities	40.3	11.2	23.1	31.6	27.7	118.2	30.2	321.8	291.1	-10
Electric power	21.1	2.6	12.4	7.9	8.6	103.6	15.1	191.9	171.3	-11
Other utilities.....	19.2	8.6	10.7	23.7	19.1	14.6	15.1	129.9	119.8	- 8
All other State and locally owned.....	11.5	17.7	18.8	14.5	11.7	16.5	19.9	81.3	116.8	+44

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor. ¹ Includes major force-account projects started, principally by TVA and State highway departments. ² Types not shown separately are included in the appropriate "other" category. Percent increase exceeds 300.

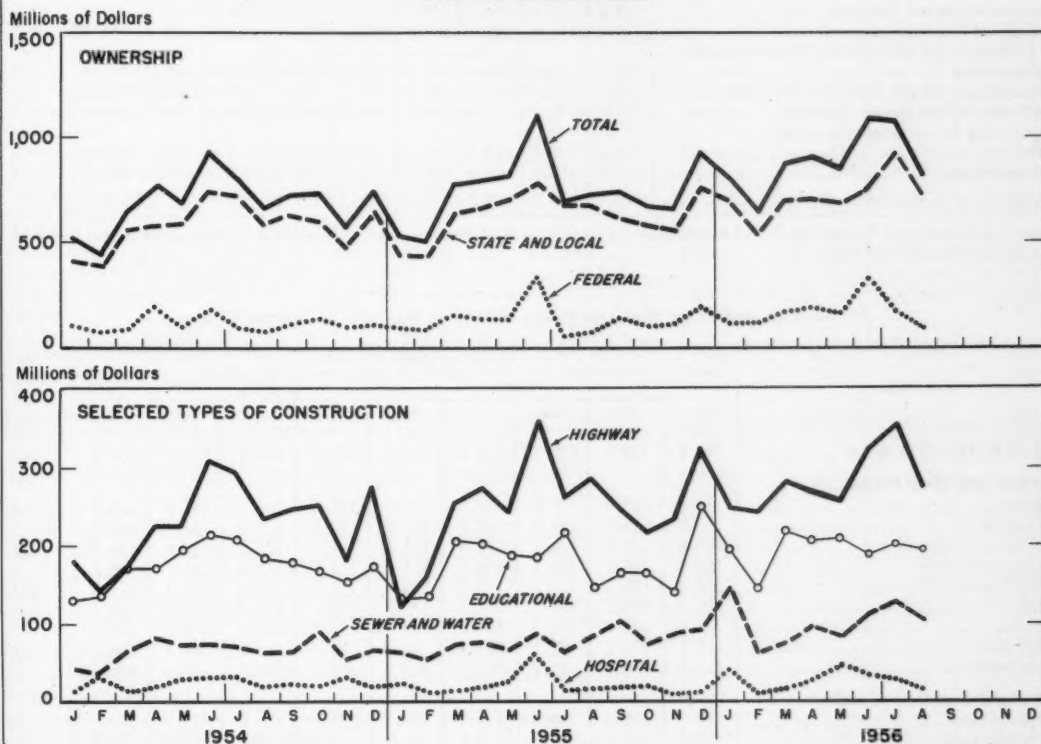
Table 22.--Contract Awards: Highway Construction, by Ownership, Source of Funds, and Type of Facility ¹

Ownership, source of funds, and type of facility	Value (in millions of dollars)									Percent change, 1st 8 months 1955-56
	1955	1956						First 8 months		
	Aug.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	1955	1956	
ALL HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION	286.8	281.9	270.1	255.7	322.4	354.2	274.9	1,967.5	2,250.4	+14
FEDERALLY OWNED	4.8	2.9	4.8	6.6	17.3	4.9	3.0	41.8	50.1	+20
STATE OWNED	242.2	254.8	219.0	200.7	248.2	280.4	224.0	1,650.6	1,874.2	+14
Federally aided projects:										
Total value	140.2	127.8	127.0	116.8	162.3	149.6	155.4	819.8	1,099.1	+34
Federal funds	72.0	70.3	64.3	61.8	83.9	73.8	85.3	434.5	570.4	+31
Independent State projects:										
Total value	102.0	127.0	92.0	83.9	85.9	130.8	68.6	830.8	775.1	- 7
Toll facilities	45.2	76.4	17.5	15.1	11.4	50.6	10.8	432.1	286.9	-34
LOCALLY OWNED ²	39.8	24.2	46.3	48.4	56.9	68.9	47.9	275.1	326.1	+19

Source: Departments of Commerce and Labor. ¹ Includes force-account work started on Federal and State projects. ² By municipalities and counties.

Chart 7.

Contracts Awarded on Public Construction



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

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Table 23.—Contracts Awarded in 37 Eastern States

Type of construction	Value (in millions of dollars)			Percent change		
	September 1956	August 1956	First 9 months, 1956	Sept. 1956 from—		First 9 months, 1955-56
				August 1956	September 1955	
TOTAL	2,025	2,069	19,441	- 2	(1)	+ 7
Building construction	1,540	1,621	15,072	- 5	+ 7	+ 5
Residential	764	874	8,094	-13	+ 4	+ 2
Nonresidential	776	747	6,978	+ 4	+ 9	+ 9
Engineering	485	448	4,369	+ 8	-12	+15
Public works	355	301	3,184	+18	- 4	+18
Utilities	130	147	1,185	-11	-42	+10

Source: Compiled by Department of Commerce from data reported by F. W. Dodge Corporation.

¹ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

Part V--Costs

Table 24.--Construction Cost Indexes

Compiler and coverage	Indexes (1947-49 = 100)									Percent change, Sept. 1955-56
	1956						1953	1954	1955	
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	
American Appraisal Company	133.6	134.3	134.9	135.7	136.4	136.6	124.0	126.6	130.6	+ 5
Associated General Contractors	139.8	141.0	142.6	144.4	144.4	145.4	129.0	133.3	136.4	+ 7
E. H. Boeckh and Associates (20 city average):										
Residences	128.9	129.8	130.1	130.3	130.5	130.3	121.9	120.8	125.2	+ 4
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings	135.7	136.9	137.4	138.0	138.3	138.5	127.4	127.5	132.3	+ 5
Commercial and factory buildings	137.3	138.4	138.9	139.9	140.2	140.5	127.9	128.6	133.8	+ 5
Engineering News-Record (as of Oct. 1):										
Building	144.1	144.5	144.7	145.3	147.9	147.7	128.9	134.7	142.0	+ 4
Construction	152.0	152.8	153.4	153.7	155.6	155.4	135.0	141.6	148.8	+ 4
Department of Commerce composite ¹	129.4	130.2	130.8	131.3	132.1	132.2	122.8	122.0	126.3	+ 5

Source: Department of Commerce.
relative importance of each type.

¹ A composite of cost indexes representative of the major types of construction, weighted by the current

Table 25.--Indexes of Wholesale Prices of Building Materials, by Selected Classes

Commodity	Indexes (1947-49 = 100)									Percent change, Sept. 1955-56
	1956						1953	1954	1955	
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	
ALL BUILDING MATERIALS ¹	131.3	130.8	130.6	130.6	131.5	131.2	120.4	121.3	128.5	+ 2
LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS:										
Lumber	130.6	130.4	129.6	128.5	127.1	125.8	118.3	119.0	127.1	- 1
Douglas fir	136.0	135.7	133.8	131.7	128.9	125.3	113.0	124.5	134.7	- 7
Southern pine	120.6	120.2	119.2	119.5	119.1	119.0	115.0	112.0	116.6	+ 2
Other softwoods	140.8	140.3	140.2	138.8	137.5	137.5	132.4	131.1	138.6	- 1
Hardwoods	128.2	128.4	128.3	127.2	126.6	125.5	115.8	112.2	121.3	+ 4
Millwork	128.9	129.2	129.5	129.7	129.5	129.2	131.4	130.2	128.2	+ 1
Plywood	106.9	102.7	101.0	103.3	99.2	99.2	106.8	103.2	106.1	- 7
Softwood	111.4	103.1	99.7	103.4	95.4	95.4	104.1	109.5	110.7	-14
Hardwood	104.4	104.4	104.4	105.2	105.2	105.2	108.6	98.8	103.6	+ 2
PAINT AND PAINT MATERIALS:										
Prepared paint	119.1	119.1	119.1	119.1	119.1	119.1	111.0	112.8	114.8	+ 4
Paint materials	101.6	101.2	99.4	98.6	98.3	97.9	98.5	97.0	97.6	(2)
METAL PRODUCTS:										
Structural shapes	157.5	157.5	157.5	157.5	170.5	170.5	141.9	146.2	157.5	+ 8
Hardware, finish	147.2	147.2	147.2	147.2	150.2	150.2	136.6	138.0	140.8	+ 7
Plumbing equipment	133.9	135.0	134.1	134.1	134.1	133.9	118.7	118.5	128.1	+ 5
Enameled iron fixtures	125.3	125.3	125.3	125.3	125.3	125.3	129.2	129.2	131.9	- 5
Vitreous china fixtures	124.2	124.2	124.2	124.2	124.2	124.2	111.7	111.7	122.9	+ 1
Brass fittings	141.9	143.9	143.0	143.0	143.0	142.6	117.1	116.5	129.4	+10
Heating equipment	117.3	117.3	117.4	117.9	119.1	121.0	115.8	114.1	117.2	+ 3
Furnaces	123.8	124.0	124.0	124.1	126.6	130.3	121.1	120.6	123.2	+ 6
Water heaters	107.1	106.6	106.5	108.3	108.3	108.3	111.0	108.2	112.0	- 3
Metal sash	146.3	140.9	140.9	139.9	147.5	148.3	127.3	132.5	146.4	+ 1
NONMETALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS:										
Glass, plate	137.5	137.5	137.5	145.7	145.7	145.7	132.0	132.0	137.5	+ 6
Glass, window	138.8	138.8	141.2	143.5	145.9	145.9	131.3	131.3	138.8	+ 5
Concrete ingredients	130.0	130.1	130.4	130.6	130.7	130.7	119.3	122.1	125.3	+ 4
Portland cement	138.9	138.9	139.4	139.8	139.8	139.8	124.2	128.3	131.7	+ 6
Concrete products	121.7	121.7	121.9	123.0	123.4	124.8	117.4	117.8	119.8	+ 4
Structural clay products	146.0	146.1	146.5	149.3	150.1	150.1	132.0	135.4	143.9	+ 4
Gypsum products	127.1	127.1	127.1	127.1	127.1	127.1	122.1	122.1	122.1	+ 4
Asphalt roofing	111.9	111.9	111.9	117.9	117.5	117.5	109.8	104.1	114.6	+ 3
Insulation materials	101.9	100.7	99.6	100.9	100.9	100.3	107.8	110.1	107.1	- 6
MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS:										
Building board	138.1	138.1	138.1	138.1	138.1	138.1	123.0	127.6	132.7	+ 4
Kitchen cabinets, metal	136.5	136.5	136.5	136.5	136.5	138.7	127.2	127.6	136.5	+ 2

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Includes items not shown separately. ² Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

Table 26.—Wholesale Prices of Selected Building Materials

Commodity	Unit	1956		1955
		Aug.	July	Aug.
LUMBER				
Douglas fir:				
Dimension, No. 1, 25% No. 2, green, S4S, 2"x4", R.L., mixed c/l, f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	\$71.785	\$74.641	\$77.805
Boards, No. 1, 25% No. 2, green, S4S, R.L., 1"x8", loose, mixed c/l of boards and dimension, f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	64.582	66.803	70.037
Timbers, wide, 8"x8" to 12"x12", R.L., green, f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	83.440	84.399	79.870
Southern pine:				
Dimension, No. 2 and better, 2"x4"x16', dry, S.L., S4S, f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	85.887	85.765	82.278
Boards, No. 2 and better, 1"x6", dry, R.L., S4S, f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	81.884	82.425	78.922
Ponderosa pine boards, No. 3 common, 1"x8", R.L., S2 or 4S, c/l or mixed cars, f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	77.390	79.800	80.760
Oak, red, flooring, plain, 25/32" thick, 2-1/4" face, select, f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	196.466	196.931	194.346
Maple flooring 2d grade, 25/32" x2-1/4" face, f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	209.428	202.914	187.879
Poplar, plain, No. 2B common, 4/4", R.W., f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	60.000	60.000	55.000
Beech, No. 2 common, 4/4", R.W. & L., f.o.b. mill	M bd. ft.	56.000	56.000	47.000
MILLWORK				
Door, Douglas fir, interior, 2 plywood panels, 2'6"x6'8"x1-3/8", f.o.b. factory	Each	(1)	(1)	(1)
Door frame, ponderosa pine, exterior, 1-5/16" x2" casing, with sill, f.o.b. factory	Each	9.372	9.372	9.326
Window, ponderosa pine, 2-light, check rail, open, f.o.b. factory	Each	1.674	1.681	1.662
PLYWOOD				
Douglas fir, interior, grade A-D, 1/4"x48"x96", f.o.b. mill	M sq. ft.	68.448	76.053	80.807
Douglas fir, interior, grade C-D, 5/16"x48"x96", f.o.b. mill	M sq. ft.	61.463	63.695	70.660
BOARD				
Insulation, fiber, 1/2"x48"x96", interior, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	M sq. ft.	57.500	57.500	55.000
PREPARED PAINT				
Emulsion, water-thinned, inside, delivered	Gallon	2.510	2.510	2.399
Varnish, floor, first grade, delivered	Gallon	3.874	3.874	3.706
Enamel, white, gloss, first grade, delivered	Gallon	4.802	4.802	4.628
Inside, flat, white, first grade, delivered	Gallon	3.116	3.116	2.945
Outside, white, first grade, delivered	Gallon	4.477	4.477	4.348
METAL PRODUCTS				
Structural shapes, carbon steel, 6"x4"x1/2" angles, 30' long, ASTM spec. A-7, base quantity, f.o.b. mill	100 lb.	5.267	4.867	4.867
Bars, reinforcing, carbon steel, 3/4" rounds x 30' long with 10% shorts, spec. ASTM A-15, 50T, base quantity, f.o.b. mill	100 lb.	5.738	5.313	5.313
Sheets, galvanized, carbon steel, 24 gage x 30" wide x 96" long, commercial coating, base chemistry, base packaging, base quantity, f.o.b. mill	100 lb.	8.220	7.770	7.690
Pipe, standard, black, carbon steel, butt weld, threaded and coupled, 1-1/4" nominal, random lengths, wt. 228 lbs., f.o.b. mill	100 ft.	18.376	16.997	16.366
Pipe, standard, galvanized, carbon steel, butt weld, threaded and coupled, 1-1/4" nominal, random lengths, wt. 228 lbs., f.o.b. mill	100 ft.	22.516	21.137	19.971
Nails, wire, carbon steel, 8-penny, common, c/l, f.o.b. mill	100 lb. bag	9.368	8.595	8.618
Soil pipe, cast iron, 2" to 6", single and double hub, service pipe, extra heavy, f.o.b. foundry, index number (1947-49 = 100)	Ton	(112.8)	(106.0)	(111.3)
Aluminum sheets, 3003-H14, hard alloy, mill finish, 0.64"x48"x144", 30,000 lbs. or over, f.o.b. shipping point, freight allowed	Pound	\$0.427	\$0.408	\$0.393
Copper water tubing, type L, 3/4" size, 0.045" thick, 2,000 ft. or more in 60' coils (0.455 lbs. per linear ft.), f.o.b. mill, freight allowed	Foot	.316	.316	.293
Wire, building, type R, size 12, single braid, f.o.b. destination, or freight prepaid on specified amounts	M ft.	21.930	21.930	15.725
Screening, insect, bronze wire, 18x14 mesh, 30" wide, c/l, f.o.b. factory	Linear ft. roll	30.780	30.780	25.840
PLUMBING EQUIPMENT				
Bath tub, enameled iron, 5', recessed, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed	Each	55.113	55.113	55.113
Lavatory, enameled iron, 20"x18", f.o.b. plant, freight allowed	Each	13.497	13.497	13.500
Water closet, vitreous china, close coupled, reverse trap, f.o.b. plant, freight allowed	Each	24.682	24.682	24.363
Sink, enameled steel, 32"x21", flat rim, 2-compartment, acid resisting, without drainboard, f.o.b. plant, freight allowed	Each	15.687	15.687	16.634

See footnotes at end of table.

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Table 26.--Wholesale Prices of Selected Building Materials--Continued

Commodity	Unit	1956		1955
		Aug.	July	Aug.
HEATING EQUIPMENT				
Boiler, heating, steel, oil fired, steam rating 400 sq. ft., less burner, with jacket and standard trim, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed	Each	\$190.342	\$190.342	\$186.122
Convactor, nonferrous, free standing, average steam rating 43 sq. ft., E.D.R., f.o.b. factory, freight allowance	Sq. ft., incl. enclosure	.454	.451	.438
Furnace, warm air:				
Steel, oil fired, forced air, gun-type burner, average bonnet output 90,000-115,000 BTU per hr., f.o.b. factory, freight allowance	Each	240.969	242.671	249.966
Steel, gas fired, standard automatic controls, average input rating 85,000-110,000 BTU per hr., enclosing jacket, f.o.b. factory, freight allowance	Each	170.531	165.998	166.051
Furnace, floor, gas fired, floor grill, average input rating 40,000-60,000 BTU per hr., manual controls, f.o.b. factory	Each	57.541	57.217	61.370
Oil burner, mechanical forced draft (gun-type) 2-1/2 gal. per hr., thermostat, limit and stack controls, f.o.b. factory	Each	103.548	100.961	100.850
Water heater, gas, automatic, 30-gal. storage tank, galvanized steel, 1-year guarantee, f.o.b. factory, freight allowed	Each	41.640	41.640	40.954
NONMETALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS				
Sand, construction, f.o.b. plant	Ton	1.225	1.225	1.195
Gravel, for concrete, 1-1/2" maximum, f.o.b. plant	Ton	1.509	1.510	1.437
Crushed stone, for concrete, 1-1/2" maximum, f.o.b. plant	Ton	1.612	1.610	1.597
Block, concrete, lightweight aggregate, 8"x8"x16", f.o.b. plant	Each	.181	.181	.175
Pipe, concrete, culvert, reinforced, 24" diameter, ASTM spec. C76-41 table 1, 3" wall thickness, 3'-8' lengths, delivered	Foot	4.011	3.981	3.840
Brick, building, f.o.b. plant	Thousand	30.668	30.946	29.308
Brick, face, red, first quality, textured, f.o.b. plant	Thousand	39.998	39.998	37.717
Tile, clay, partition, scored, 4"x12"x12", 3-cell, 16 lbs., f.o.b. plant	Thousand	134.556	134.556	126.629
Sewer pipe, vitrified clay, 8" diameter, 3' lengths, standard strength, f.o.b. plant	Foot	.520	.520	.488
Lath, gypsum, 3/8"x16"x48", f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	M sq. ft.	24.990	24.990	24.010
Wallboard, gypsum, 3/8"x48", varying lengths, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	M sq. ft.	32.830	32.830	31.850
Plaster, gypsum, base coat, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	Ton	15.928	15.928	14.948
Shingles, asphalt, strip, 210 lbs., f.o.b. factory, freight allowance	Square	5.897	5.897	5.762
Lime, hydrated, building, finishing, f.o.b. plant	Ton	20.350	20.306	19.889
Siding shingles, asbestos cement, f.o.b. plant, freight equalized	Square	10.996	10.996	10.306

Source: Department of Labor. ¹ Not available.

Table 27.--Indexes of Union Hourly Wage Rates in the Building Trades, by Trade

(1947-49=100)

Period	All trades	Bricklayers	Carpenters	Electricians	Painters	Plasterers	Plumbers	Building laborers
1950: July 1.....	110.7	111.6	110.1	111.5	109.6	113.0	107.8	112.4
1951: July 1.....	117.8	116.3	117.4	120.0	116.8	118.5	114.2	120.4
1952: July 1.....	125.1	126.2	124.6	126.8	124.4	125.3	121.0	128.6
1953: July 1.....	131.6	130.0	131.1	132.0	130.5	130.1	125.4	138.4
1954: July 1.....	136.4	134.2	135.3	135.9	134.5	132.5	132.3	144.4
1955: July 1.....	141.2	137.8	140.3	139.0	139.9	136.5	135.5	150.9
1955: Oct. 3.....	*142.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
1956: Jan. 3.....	*143.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Apr. 2.....	*144.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
July 2.....	*147.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Oct. 1.....	*148.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

Source: Department of Labor.

*Estimated.

¹Not available.

Table 28.—Union Wage Scales in the Building Trades: Average Rate and Range in Rates, by Trade, and Rate by City

(As of Oct. 1, 1956)

City	Bricklayers	Carpenters	Electricians	Painters	Plasterers	Plumbers	Building laborers
ALL PLACES:							
Estimated average rate	\$3.64	\$3.14	\$3.35	\$3.03	\$3.52	\$3.39	\$2.21
Range in rate levels	2.50-4.05	1.88-3.75	2.38-4.00	1.75-3.50	2.50-4.00	2.40-3.85	1.00-3.00
Cents-per-hour increase, July 2-Oct. 1, 1956	1.1	1.5	0.9	2.7	1.7	4.1	0.4
Albuquerque, N. Mex.	*3.725	2.900	3.225	2.625	3.250	3.125	1.900
Atlanta, Ga.	3.350	2.800	*3.200	*2.850	3.000	3.200	1.450
Baltimore, Md.	3.450	2.950	3.300	2.675	3.250	3.200	1.800
Birmingham, Ala.	3.500	*2.700	3.175	2.750	2.920	*3.170	1.500
Boise, Idaho	3.250	*2.700	2.900	2.650	3.000	3.000	2.050
Boston, Mass.	3.500	3.050	*3.300	2.650	3.500	*3.250	2.300
Buffalo, N. Y.	¹ 3.565	*3.370	3.500	3.000	3.515	*3.350	2.485
Burlington, Vt.	3.500	2.500	2.375	1.750	3.500	2.400	*2.000
Butte, Mont.	3.125	2.850	*3.250	*2.750	3.250	*3.275	*2.090
Charleston, S. C.	2.750	*2.400	3.000	2.250	2.600	3.000	¹ 1.050
Charleston, W. Va.	3.550	3.075	3.150	2.625	3.000	*3.175	2.000
Charlotte, N. C.	3.000	2.250	*2.750	1.750	2.500	2.850	1.275
Chattanooga, Tenn.	3.500	*2.775	3.175	2.550	3.100	*3.250	1.625
Cheyenne, Wyo.	3.500	2.750	2.840	2.650	3.000	3.000	1.800
Chicago, Ill.	3.625	3.350	3.480	3.275	3.545	3.350	2.575
Cincinnati, Ohio	3.600	¹ 3.300	3.500	*2.950	3.375	*3.350	2.350
Cleveland, Ohio	3.550	3.575	3.600	3.150	3.575	*3.475	2.825
Columbia, S. C.	2.500	1.875	2.600	2.250	2.500	2.850	(2)
Columbus, Ohio	3.500	3.000	3.280	2.710	3.170	3.250	2.100
Dallas, Tex.	3.700	*2.950	3.125	2.813	3.438	3.100	1.550
Dayton, Ohio	3.600	3.100	3.460	3.000	3.270	*3.300	2.260
Denver, Colo.	3.625	*3.075	3.000	2.900	3.300	3.170	2.000
Des Moines, Iowa	3.650	3.000	3.200	2.750	3.100	3.250	2.250
Detroit, Mich.	3.630	3.200	3.500	3.075	3.510	¹ 3.455	¹ 2.450
Duluth, Minn.	*3.300	*2.750	3.000	2.650	*3.125	2.950	*2.100
El Paso, Tex.	3.500	2.900	3.100	*2.375	¹ 3.125	3.100	1.600
Erie, Pa.	3.450	3.150	3.250	2.700	3.250	3.100	2.250
Evansville, Ind.	3.425	2.850	3.140	¹ 2.680	3.250	3.125	2.025
Fargo, N. Dak.	3.320	2.400	2.700	2.300	3.000	2.700	1.700
Grand Rapids, Mich.	3.450	2.875	*3.300	2.600	¹ 3.300	3.375	2.100
Hartford, Conn.	3.400	2.975	3.400	2.850	3.400	3.220	2.180
Houston, Tex.	3.688	2.975	3.250	*3.000	3.375	*3.175	1.750
Indianapolis, Ind.	3.625	3.225	3.350	3.000	3.350	3.300	2.200
Jackson, Miss.	3.250	2.500	2.900	*2.375	2.750	3.000	1.250
Jacksonville, Fla.	3.100	2.600	*3.250	2.375	*2.875	¹ 3.100	1.150
Kansas City, Mo.	3.700	*2.950	*3.325	2.900	3.375	¹ 3.300	2.155
Knoxville, Tenn.	3.350	2.725	3.000	2.500	3.000	3.080	1.625
Lansing, Mich.	*3.700	*3.125	*3.300	2.880	*3.700	3.250	2.330
Las Vegas, Nev.	3.750	3.200	*3.570	3.150	3.750	3.700	2.450
Little Rock, Ark.	3.400	2.750	2.875	*2.375	¹ 3.065	¹ 3.080	1.250
Los Angeles, Calif.	3.800	3.000	3.600	3.010	*3.750	3.525	2.300
Louisville, Ky.	¹ 3.575	3.000	3.300	*2.900	3.300	*3.300	2.000
Madison, Wis.	3.350	2.850	3.260	2.750	3.170	3.150	2.350
Manchester, N. H.	3.500	*2.875	2.750	2.200	3.500	2.870	*2.150
Memphis, Tenn.	3.750	*2.625	*3.150	2.563	3.000	3.125	*1.450
Miami, Fla.	3.250	2.880	*3.350	*2.720	3.250	3.250	1.350
Milwaukee, Wis.	3.400	3.150	3.050	³ 2.750	³ 3.280	3.210	2.375
Minneapolis, Minn.	3.425	3.000	3.120	2.850	*3.100	3.000	2.250
Mobile, Ala.	3.535	2.800	3.075	³ 2.625	3.150	*3.350	1.650
Montgomery, Ala.	2.875	2.250	*2.750	2.350	2.750	*3.100	1.000

See footnotes at end of table.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Table 28.--Union Wage Scales in the Building Trades: Average Rate and Range in Rates, by Trade, and Rate by City--Continued

(As of Oct. 1, 1956)

City	Bricklayers	Carpenters	Electricians	Painters	Plasterers	Plumbers	Building laborers
Nashville, Tenn.	\$3.250	*\$2.575	\$3.000	\$2.500	\$3.000	\$3.050	\$1.250
Newark, N. J.	4.000	*3.750	4.000	*3.500	4.000	3.750	3.000
New Haven, Conn.	3.250	3.100	3.250	2.900	3.250	3.250	2.350
New Orleans, La.	¹ 3.250	¹ 2.675	*3.125	2.400	¹ 2.810	3.050	¹ 1.525
New York, N. Y.	4.050	3.650	3.500	*3.210	4.000	*3.850	2.900
Norfolk, Va.	3.250	2.300	3.050	2.360	3.050	2.900	1.250
Oakland, Calif.	3.750	*3.125	3.300	3.100	3.540	3.325	2.325
Oklahoma City, Okla.	*3.800	2.725	3.250	2.600	3.300	3.150	1.800
Omaha, Nebr.	*3.425	2.925	¹ 3.250	*2.550	3.200	3.200	2.000
Peoria, Ill.	3.550	3.210	*3.350	2.925	3.500	3.350	2.525
Philadelphia, Pa.	3.750	3.385	3.775	2.900	3.650	3.750	2.100
Phoenix, Ariz.	3.750	3.030	*3.225	2.750	3.430	3.100	2.180
Pittsburgh, Pa.	*3.750	*3.400	3.500	3.000	3.450	3.425	¹ 2.250
Portland, Maine	3.250	2.600	2.750	2.000	3.150	3.000	1.950
Portland, Oreg.	3.500	2.800	3.100	2.750	3.250	3.250	2.250
Providence, R. I.	3.325	2.725	3.000	2.500	3.375	3.150	2.075
Raleigh, N. C.	2.750	2.000	2.500	1.750	2.500	2.500	(2)
Reading, Pa.	3.300	2.900	*3.250	2.500	*3.150	3.075	1.950
Richmond, Va.	3.250	2.300	2.850	2.150	2.920	*2.900	1.400
Rochester, N. Y.	3.510	3.250	3.370	3.030	3.510	3.170	2.490
Rock Island, Ill. (Dist.) ³	*3.500	*2.960	3.300	2.900	3.250	3.250	*2.300
St. Louis, Mo.	3.750	3.250	*3.600	3.085	3.425	¹ 3.550	2.300
St. Paul, Minn.	3.425	3.000	3.120	2.850	3.150	3.000	2.250
Salt Lake City, Utah	3.250	*2.800	3.000	*2.650	3.125	3.000	*2.000
San Antonio, Tex.	3.375	2.750	3.125	2.500	3.375	3.175	1.375
San Diego, Calif.	3.750	3.000	3.250	2.940	3.625	3.525	2.300
San Francisco, Calif.	3.750	*3.125	¹ 3.375	3.100	3.563	¹ 3.450	2.325
Santa Fe, N. Mex.	3.750	2.900	3.100	2.500	3.000	3.125	1.900
Savannah, Ga.	*3.100	2.650	3.100	2.250	2.500	*3.150	*1.300
Schenectady, N. Y.	3.300	3.000	3.300	2.600	3.300	3.150	2.300
Scranton, Pa.	¹ 3.375	2.750	3.100	2.375	*3.150	3.100	2.025
Seattle, Wash.	3.550	2.800	3.100	2.810	3.275	3.150	2.370
Shreveport, La.	3.500	2.625	*3.250	2.500	3.250	3.050	1.450
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.	*3.400	2.500	2.900	2.250	2.750	3.000	1.725
South Bend, Ind.	3.500	2.950	3.175	2.700	3.250	3.250	2.200
Spokane, Wash.	3.550	2.900	3.200	2.760	3.320	3.150	2.270
Springfield, Mass.	*3.375	2.825	3.050	2.700	*3.375	3.100	2.075
Syracuse, N. Y.	3.425	3.045	3.500	2.700	3.325	3.155	2.275
Tampa, Fla.	3.000	2.450	3.050	2.275	3.000	*2.950	1.250
Toledo, Ohio	3.510	3.325	3.400	3.020	3.400	3.400	2.520
Trenton, N. J.	3.700	3.475	4.000	3.000	3.700	3.500	2.450
Tulsa, Okla.	3.500	2.925	*3.225	2.800	3.250	*3.200	1.900
Washington, D. C.	3.650	3.225	3.500	3.050	*3.550	*3.560	2.100
Wichita, Kans.	3.550	2.800	3.200	2.500	*3.375	3.210	2.000
Wilmington, Del.	3.600	3.250	3.525	2.850	3.200	3.400	1.950
Worcester, Mass.	3.350	3.000	3.100	*2.650	3.350	2.950	*2.300
York, Pa.	3.125	2.550	3.125	2.250	3.000	3.000	1.800
Youngstown, Ohio	*3.600	*3.275	3.375	3.050	*3.500	3.250	2.415

Source: Department of Labor.
of data reported for previous quarter.
and Davenport, Iowa.

* Represents an increase in rates between July 2, 1956 and October 1, 1956.

² No union scale in effect on survey date.

¹ Indicates correction
³ Includes Rock Island and Moline, Ill.,

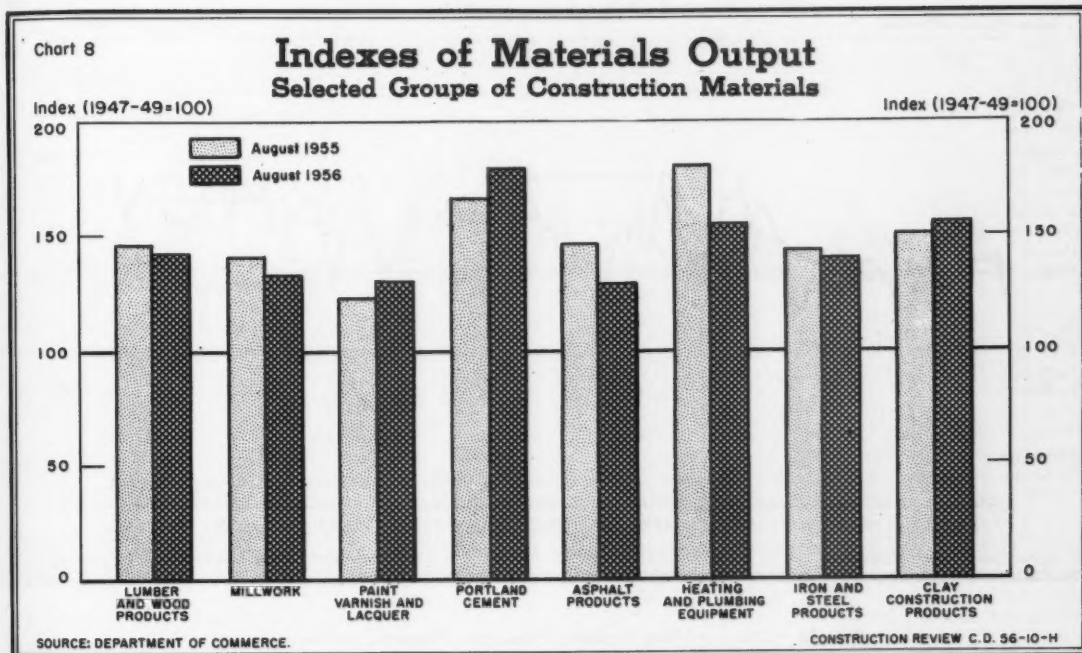


Table 29.—Construction Materials: Indexes of Output

(Monthly average 1947-49 = 100)

Materials group	Monthly Indexes												
	1955					1956							
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Lumber and wood products....	146.0	139.7	135.3	124.6	117.6	121.0	119.5	129.0	129.3	138.6	130.0	119.8	143.1
Millwork	141.7	143.1	134.3	128.3	103.9	107.7	122.9	128.0	125.5	126.3	118.4	98.2	132.9
Paint, varnish, and lacquer	123.4	118.1	107.1	105.9	100.3	112.3	114.4	120.4	117.9	129.3	124.4	117.5	129.8
Portland cement	166.7	161.1	167.0	148.9	138.0	128.2	117.1	139.9	156.3	177.1	172.1	176.5	179.8
Asphalt products	146.8	126.2	122.4	110.1	71.2	68.5	100.3	130.0	80.8	113.6	119.8	121.1	127.7
Heating and plumbing equipment	180.6	183.2	164.0	139.7	107.7	126.8	118.0	133.3	116.6	125.4	123.3	118.5	154.6
Iron and steel products	144.1	149.5	145.0	134.9	132.3	136.4	143.4	155.7	152.2	164.2	164.0	(1)	140.1
Clay construction products..	159.1	151.3	148.0	146.0	136.4	136.1	129.2	146.4	137.6	146.5	147.3	145.9	155.3
	Quarterly Indexes												
	1955				1956								
	First quarter		Second quarter		Third quarter		Fourth quarter		First quarter		Second quarter		
Gypsum products	168.9		173.7		180.3		185.4		187.6		188.6		
Plumbing fixtures	133.5		141.3		130.4		142.2		140.6		135.7		

Source: Table compiled by the Department of Commerce from data reported by various Government agencies and by private firms shown in notes to the tables following. ¹Not available.

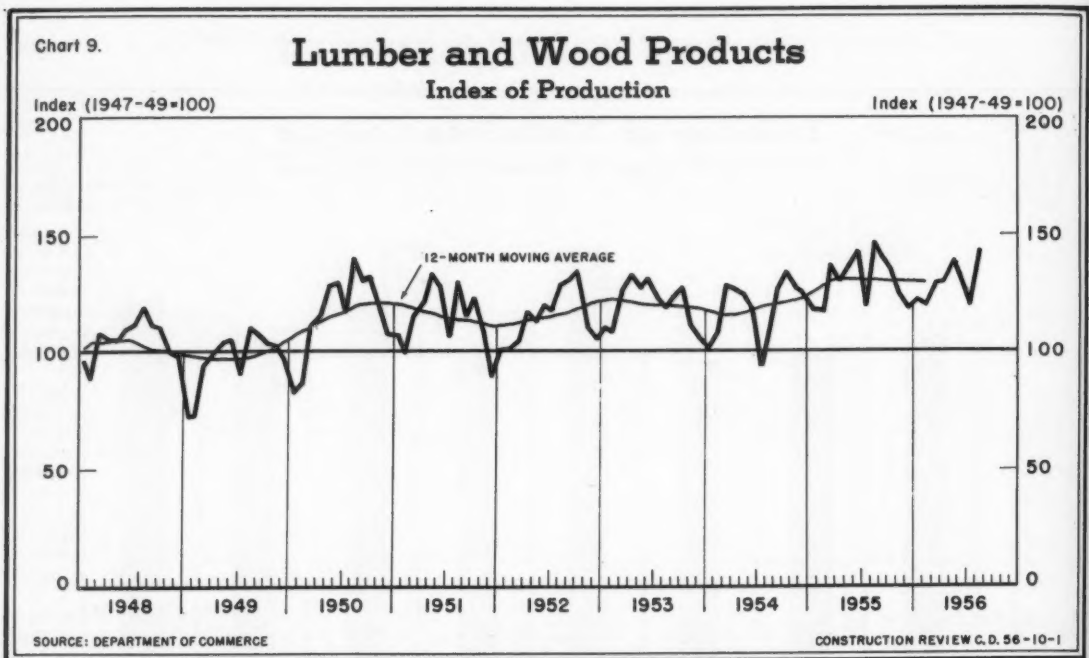


Table 30.--Lumber and Wood Products: Production, Shipments, and Stocks

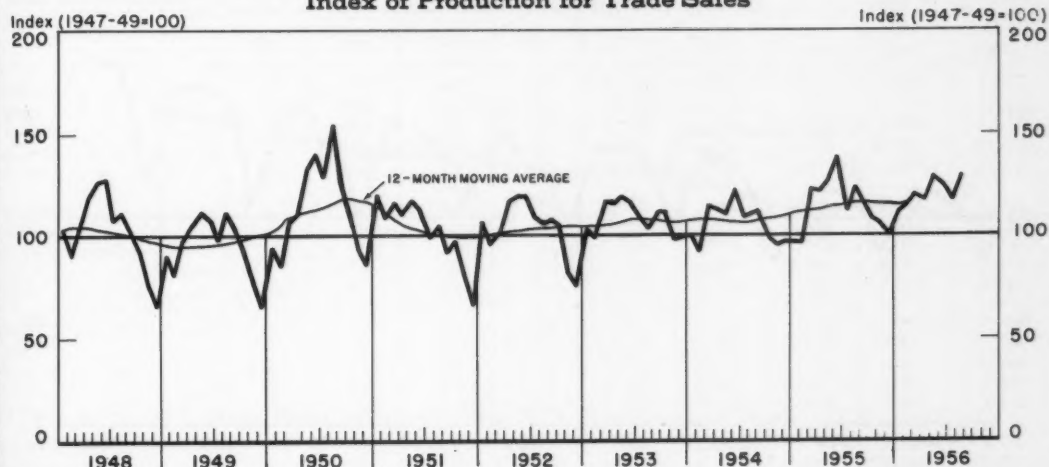
Period	Softwood lumber (Million board feet)			Hardwood flooring (Thousand board feet)			Douglas fir plywood (Million square feet)	Insulating boards (Tons)	Hardboard (Tons)
	Production	Shipments	Stocks*	Production	Shipments	Stocks*	Production		
1947-49 average	28,048	27,440	4,448	812,365	789,437	44,455	1,802	766,269	294,214
Year: 1953	31,072	30,318	5,756	1,004,558	1,010,972	73,449	3,704	950,889	423,418
1954	29,296	29,798	5,275	1,145,118	1,139,091	68,425	3,825	1,013,340	493,258
1955	31,563	31,432	5,429	1,268,104	1,258,914	70,045	4,901	1,119,213	536,845
12 months ending:									
May 1956	31,183	30,936	--	1,260,358	1,222,733	--	5,093	1,161,030	553,028
June 1956	30,902	30,492	--	1,245,241	1,204,425	--	5,036	1,183,525	554,052
July 1956	30,872	30,338	--	1,233,068	1,190,122	--	5,070	1,191,277	553,960
August 1956	30,714	30,083	--	1,225,759	1,179,434	--	5,131	1,190,400	555,026
1955: August	3,038	2,962	4,952	114,156	113,495	52,424	415	102,681	46,482
September	2,871	2,756	5,066	109,338	110,585	50,483	423	95,722	44,438
October	2,728	2,605	6,665	105,945	104,909	51,644	428	101,344	46,860
November	2,442	2,360	5,254	106,217	98,949	58,812	423	93,644	45,836
December	2,280	2,106	5,429	97,765	86,532	70,045	414	93,748	42,426
1956: January	2,305	2,227	5,495	100,999	94,957	76,187	448	91,924	49,731
February	2,289	2,288	5,486	97,393	93,162	81,877	443	93,920	44,164
March	2,483	2,593	5,380	102,516	99,491	88,249	470	105,377	46,777
April	2,541	2,620	5,311	97,788	94,970	83,056	447	103,267	47,380
May	2,796	2,780	5,327	108,891	104,107	87,890	432	106,204	49,185
June	2,665	2,603	5,392	100,955	98,374	88,216	372	104,092	46,603
July	2,434	2,438	5,388	91,105	90,591	87,593	355	99,354	44,078
August	2,880	2,707	5,561	106,847	102,807	93,916	476	101,804	47,548
Percent change									
August, 1955-56	- 5	- 9	+12	- 6	- 9	+79	+15	- 1	+ 2
First 8 mos., 1955-56	- 4	- 6	--	- 5	- 9	--	+ 6	+10	+ 5

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the National Lumber Manufacturers Association, the Douglas Fir Plywood Association, and the Bureau of the Census. * As of end of period.

Chart 10.

Paint, Varnish, and Lacquer

Index of Production for Trade Sales



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

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Table 31.—Millwork Products, and Paint, Varnish, and Lacquer: Production

Period	Production (Thousands of units)					Production for trade sales (Thousands of gallons)
	Douglas fir doors (panel type)	Ponderosa pine doors	Hardwood doors	Sash	Exterior frames	Paint, varnish, & lacquer
1947-49 average	5,658	3,780	3,172	11,246	4,152	266,701
Year: 1953	4,070	2,487	4,783	11,419	5,072	288,094
1954	3,522	2,285	5,940	11,054	5,791	282,979
1955	(1)	2,253	6,786	12,733	7,259	304,476
12 months ending:						
May 1956	(1)	2,149	6,658	11,628	6,736	311,055
June 1956	(1)	2,131	6,613	11,368	6,585	307,861
July 1956	(1)	2,125	6,568	11,309	6,513	309,121
August 1956	(1)	2,125	6,514	11,368	6,494	310,553
1955: August	229	203	613	1,163	704	27,423
September	239	202	621	1,137	713	26,255
October	(1)	206	528	1,174	681	23,797
November	(1)	193	517	1,145	591	23,529
December	(1)	149	454	897	414	22,282
1956: January	(1)	166	480	873	442	24,954
February	(1)	189	561	896	463	25,423
March	(1)	182	625	771	460	26,768
April	(1)	168	618	738	476	26,197
May	(1)	176	572	913	535	28,738
June	(1)	164	534	844	569	27,650
July	(1)	127	445	758	465	26,105
August	(1)	203	559	1,222	685	28,855
Percent change						
August, 1955-56	--	(2)	-9	+5	-3	+5
First 8 mos., 1955-56	--	-9	-6	-16	-16	+3

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Fir Door Institute, the National Wood Work Manufacturers Association (whose data on ponderosa pine and hardwood doors, sash and exterior frames are only from member firms, and are not adjusted to represent full coverage), and the Bureau of the Census. ¹ Not available. ² Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

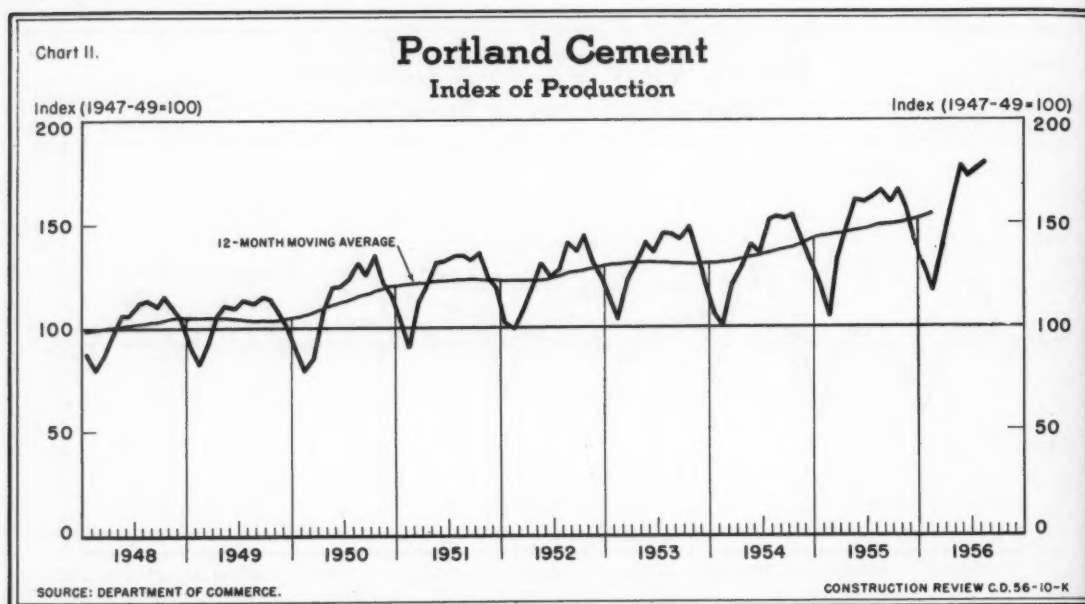


Table 32.—Portland Cement, and Asphalt and Gypsum Products: Production, Shipments, and Stocks

Period	Pro- duction	Ship- ments	Stocks*	Shipments (Thousands of squares)				Shipments (Million square feet)	
	(Thousands of barrels)								
	Portland cement			Asphalt prepared roofing	Asphalt siding	Asphalt insulated brick siding	Asphalt and tar saturated felts	Gypsum board ¹	Gypsum lath ¹
1947-49 average.....	200,607	199,306	11,922	61,252	3,365	2,811	17,087	2,478	2,075
Year: 1953.....	264,022	260,889	19,231	56,703	1,557	2,794	25,778	3,757	2,435
1954.....	271,277	274,096	16,731	58,648	1,447	2,297	28,531	4,217	2,484
1955.....	296,829	296,275	17,536	62,930	1,293	2,193	34,609	4,911	2,926
12 months ending:									
May 1956.....	304,950	302,373	--	62,291	1,272	2,178	32,699		
June 1956.....	306,959	303,063	--	61,098	1,258	2,142	31,882	5,165	3,034
July 1956.....	309,125	305,194	--	61,673	1,268	2,148	32,414		
August 1956.....	311,319	306,918	--	60,661	1,261	2,139	31,986		
1955: August.....	27,861	31,883	12,731	7,183	124	253	3,238		
September.....	26,958	29,867	9,779	6,242	139	255	2,496	1,232	771
October.....	27,924	28,950	8,753	5,948	150	229	2,624		
November.....	24,894	21,985	11,663	4,617	128	169	3,483	1,298	748
December.....	23,075	17,203	17,536	2,707	74	93	2,704		
1956: January.....	21,440	13,500	25,456	3,188	83	94	1,798		
February.....	19,578	16,093	28,939	4,624	112	116	2,784	1,339	719
March.....	23,386	22,471	29,854	6,157	120	183	3,294		
April.....	26,134	27,261	28,675	3,951	64	151	1,742		
May.....	29,606	32,087	26,198	5,499	78	202	2,577	1,296	796
June.....	28,771	32,296	22,679	5,757	95	197	2,830		
July.....	29,498	31,598	20,585	5,800	101	206	2,844		
August.....	30,055	33,607	17,046	6,171	117	244	2,810		
Percent change									
August, 1955-56.....	+ 8	+ 5	+34	-14	- 6	- 4	-13	--	--
First 8 mos., 1955-56.....	+ 7	+ 6	--	- 5	- 4	- 4	-11	--	--

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDISA) from data reported by the Department of Interior (Bureau of Mines), and the Bureau of the Census. * As of end of period. ¹ Data reported on quarterly basis.

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Table 33.—Portland Cement: Destination of Shipments, by State

(Thousands of barrels)

State	1956			Calendar year			12 months ending—		
	May	June	July	1953	1954	1955	May 1956	June 1956	July 1956
Alabama	455	439	403	4,260	3,943	3,949	4,385	4,495	4,575
Arizona	237	256	227	2,433	2,215	2,337	2,294	2,354	2,447
Arkansas	201	196	189	1,762	1,894	2,519	1,933	1,876	1,854
California	3,194	3,118	3,179	27,737	28,528	31,553	33,118	33,263	33,658
Colorado	391	394	408	2,941	3,285	3,486	3,867	3,890	3,958
Connecticut	479	490	417	3,194	3,258	3,380	3,530	3,646	3,744
Delaware	105	116	110	902	910	1,097	1,169	1,146	1,121
District of Columbia	134	159	109	1,249	1,324	1,395	1,345	1,368	1,358
Florida	785	710	722	7,487	8,354	8,997	8,404	8,391	8,412
Georgia	456	454	460	4,644	4,441	5,198	5,632	5,612	5,613
Idaho	122	128	125	986	1,215	923	950	969	938
Illinois	1,761	1,848	1,938	13,439	14,973	14,670	15,626	15,871	15,590
Indiana	1,190	1,145	1,013	6,568	6,724	8,073	8,926	9,177	8,910
Iowa	932	921	947	4,941	5,863	5,883	6,487	6,647	6,400
Kansas	802	764	593	5,801	6,576	7,248	7,344	7,283	7,313
Kentucky	359	407	326	3,354	3,026	3,636	3,744	3,804	3,787
Louisiana	811	769	725	5,728	6,292	7,347	8,073	8,156	7,942
Maine	120	157	149	894	857	961	866	919	863
Maryland	649	644	509	4,676	4,447	4,882	5,322	5,505	5,337
Massachusetts	736	654	620	4,351	4,180	5,239	5,367	5,441	5,275
Michigan	1,621	1,965	1,952	12,716	13,076	13,991	14,332	14,644	14,235
Minnesota	659	645	742	4,968	5,500	5,838	5,816	5,724	5,757
Mississippi	194	195	191	1,696	1,732	1,972	2,013	2,000	1,986
Missouri	782	810	715	6,796	7,556	7,824	7,957	7,902	7,898
Montana	156	168	169	949	1,019	951	1,075	1,118	1,051
Nebraska	426	421	403	3,384	3,724	3,485	3,473	3,390	3,376
Nevada	62	57	58	618	842	737	716	700	724
New Hampshire	163	154	149	549	827	1,147	1,150	1,125	1,125
New Jersey	1,021	951	922	8,581	9,164	9,337	9,347	9,278	9,251
New Mexico	212	196	210	1,860	2,111	1,996	1,984	1,986	1,958
New York	2,209	2,318	2,209	19,134	20,290	19,399	19,289	19,234	18,981
North Carolina	409	413	426	3,715	4,009	4,414	4,293	4,254	4,233
North Dakota	162	150	193	1,148	1,161	1,150	1,195	1,199	1,207
Ohio	1,589	1,778	1,993	14,286	16,003	17,320	17,284	16,793	17,225
Oklahoma	452	398	365	4,158	4,364	4,785	4,716	4,691	4,702
Oregon	264	249	260	2,445	2,081	2,398	2,443	2,444	2,450
Pennsylvania	1,574	1,724	1,649	15,234	15,108	16,077	15,633	15,486	15,502
Rhode Island	108	88	94	857	685	822	847	837	848
South Carolina	237	211	202	2,217	1,993	2,461	2,514	2,500	2,493
South Dakota	134	188	192	1,246	1,116	1,221	1,233	1,296	1,235
Tennessee	474	410	420	4,856	4,683	5,088	5,316	5,262	5,300
Texas	1,992	1,839	1,802	16,158	19,081	20,781	20,907	20,913	20,749
Utah	219	209	177	1,343	1,508	1,835	1,973	1,985	1,953
Vermont	41	47	44	300	242	294	298	300	286
Virginia	566	570	537	4,701	4,474	4,801	5,063	5,158	5,009
Washington	519	459	510	5,413	5,684	5,656	5,160	5,016	5,115
West Virginia	202	211	199	1,921	2,379	2,053	2,105	2,118	2,100
Wisconsin	783	805	827	6,127	5,840	5,977	6,302	6,375	6,273
Wyoming	75	75	70	538	585	578	634	644	633

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce from data reported by Department of Interior (Bureau of Mines).

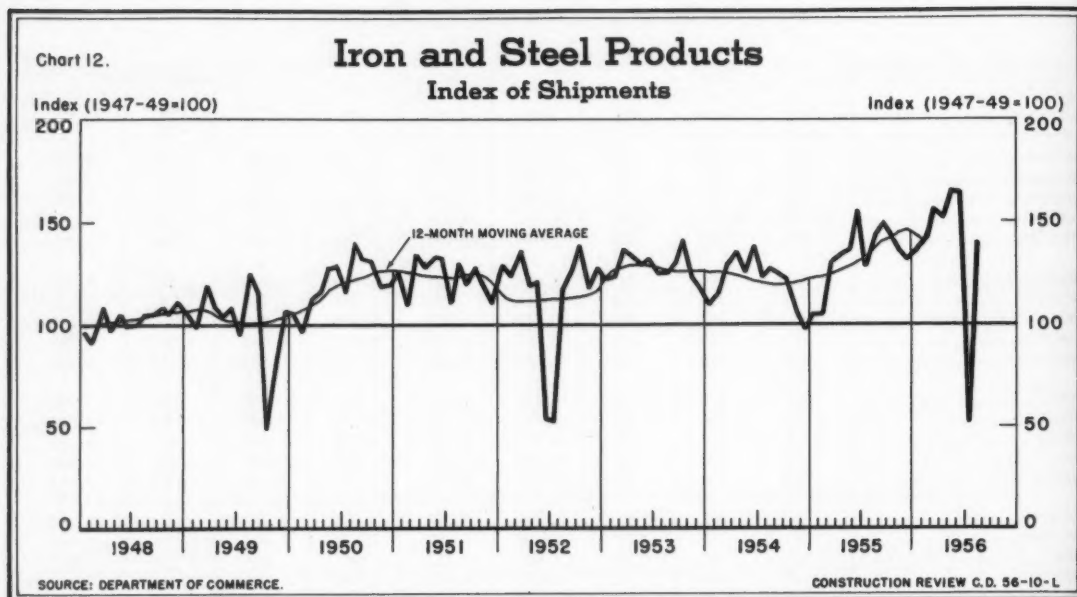


Table 34.--Iron and Steel Products: Shipments, Bookings, and Backlog

(Thousands of tons)

Period	Shipments									Shipments	Bookings	Backlog ¹	
	Line pipe	Concrete reinforcing bars	Galvanized sheets	Nails	Piling	Rails	Cast-iron pipe		Rigid steel conduit				Fabricated structural steel
							Pressure	Soil					
1947-49 average	1,975	1,523	1,669	797	309	2,167	1,075	604	226	2,248	2,105	--	
Year: 1953	3,507	1,849	2,291	529	343	1,954	1,286	677	221	3,117	2,787	1,010	
1954	2,595	1,751	2,363	567	388	1,196	1,376	744	227	3,136	2,510	743	
1955	3,083	2,163	2,865	651	391	1,233	1,682	869	280	2,981	3,693	1,029	
12 months ending:													
May 1956	3,589	2,390	3,114	626	418	1,291	1,761	853	321	3,288	4,199	--	
June 1956	3,573	2,456	3,146	624	420	1,270	1,784	843	343	3,291	4,218	--	
July 1956	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	1,800	842	344	3,237	4,137	--	
August 1956	3,248	2,320	2,975	573	389	1,145	1,824	837	351	3,182	4,093	--	
1955: August	315	197	242	56	32	88	156	85	21	268	312	1,060	
September	295	186	269	58	33	95	165	82	25	289	339	1,049	
October	265	202	260	53	41	86	161	76	26	284	309	1,068	
November	260	194	256	40	34	74	149	67	24	259	345	1,088	
December	278	194	262	35	36	98	134	46	24	248	368	1,029	
1956: January	274	182	269	50	30	131	131	59	22	251	405	1,176	
February	288	174	273	49	32	114	133	64	27	285	331	1,199	
March	299	217	291	56	39	131	132	74	28	307	366	1,187	
April	304	228	267	50	33	129	152	70	31	290	379	1,107	
May	367	230	273	56	37	114	172	79	35	306	358	1,224	
June	332	275	279	72	41	106	170	74	45	285	337	1,193	
July	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	145	66	36	165	288	1,227	
August	2,286	2,238	2,276	2,54	2,33	2,67	180	80	28	213	268	1,191	
	Percent change												
August, 1955-56	- 9	+21	+14	- 4	+ 3	-24	+15	- 6	+33	-21	-14	+12	
First 8 mos., 1955-56	+ 8	+11	+ 6	-17	- 1	-10	+13	- 5	+40	+11	+17	--	

Source: Table compiled by the Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the American Iron and Steel Institute, the National Electric Manufacturers Association, the American Institute of Steel Construction, and the Bureau of the Census. ¹Scheduled for fabrication in the next 4 months. ²July data not available separately. The figures given here for August 1956 were reported as July-August totals by the American Iron and Steel Institute because the steel industry was shut down by work stoppages in effect during July.

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Table 35.—Clay Construction Products: Production and Shipments

Period	Brick, common and face (Million brick)		Structural clay tile (Thousand tons)		Vitrified clay sewer pipe (Thousand tons)		Hollow facing tile (Million brick equivalent)		Glazed & unglazed floor & wall tile (Thousand square feet)	
	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments	Production	Shipments
1947-49 average	5,504	5,524	1,286	1,231	1,451	1,375	357	341	104,800	101,088
Year: 1953	5,875	5,771	990	922	1,655	1,563	456	444	137,429	134,375
1954	6,153	6,119	953	895	1,702	1,636	457	444	141,066	139,515
1955	7,148	7,010	839	835	1,925	1,880	493	482	187,991	187,828
12 months ending:										
May 1956	7,498	7,085	834	780	1,925	1,896	520	499	203,475	197,369
June 1956	7,490	7,033	817	762	1,910	1,882	521	497	205,632	196,525
July 1956	7,515	7,025	809	749	1,926	1,889	528	501	207,646	197,402
August 1956	7,523	6,986	805	731	1,944	1,883	527	499	208,588	197,267
1955: August	677	680	73	81	173	193	46	46	16,504	16,969
September	676	678	69	74	183	188	41	40	16,967	17,215
October	657	638	72	74	172	172	38	37	17,467	16,917
November	633	581	70	64	174	157	38	37	17,668	16,543
December	567	480	69	60	163	118	43	40	16,986	16,308
1956: January	565	435	69	54	155	121	43	42	17,527	15,972
February	536	455	63	51	157	155	43	39	15,781	15,481
March	611	541	68	55	173	159	48	45	18,173	16,638
April	627	625	66	59	117	128	49	45	17,371	16,289
May	672	661	65	61	127	137	47	43	18,681	17,065
June	646	632	60	59	164	183	44	43	18,093	16,092
July	648	619	65	57	168	178	48	44	16,428	15,913
August	685	641	69	63	191	187	45	44	17,446	16,834
Percent change										
August, 1955-56	+1	-6	-5	-22	+10	-3	-2	-4	+6	-1
First 8 mos., 1955-56	+8	-1	-6	-18	+2	+1	+10	+5	+17	+8

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census.

Table 36.—Clay Construction Products: Production and Shipments, by Census Region ¹

Census region	PRODUCTION				SHIPMENTS			
	August 1956		First 8 months 1956		August 1956		First 8 months 1956	
	Quantity	Percent change from Aug. 1955	Quantity	Percent change, 1955-56	Quantity	Percent change from Aug. 1955	Quantity	Percent change, 1955-56
Brick, common and face (thousands)								
U. S. TOTAL	685,128	+1	4,991,282	+8	641,400	-6	4,609,953	-1
New England	16,809	+40	102,389	+24	14,671	+16	92,106	+21
Middle Atlantic	114,344	+8	784,004	+10	114,344	(2)	733,420	-1
East North Central	163,964	+6	1,136,240	+8	151,498	-2	1,062,850	+2
West North Central	39,736	+7	272,856	+12	36,083	-6	238,611	+3
South Atlantic	153,532	-5	1,208,115	+6	143,785	-12	1,116,939	-5
East South Central	63,244	+1	480,742	+11	62,872	-4	448,939	+2
West South Central	69,854	-12	585,667	+5	63,950	-13	496,888	-6
Mountain	22,265	-1	187,111	+17	21,833	+4	178,249	+16
Pacific	41,380	-2	234,158	-1	32,364	-12	241,951	-3
Structural clay tile (tons)								
U. S. TOTAL	69,260	-6	526,048	-6	63,405	-21	459,774	-18
Middle Atlantic	6,194	-17	51,796	-6	5,844	-28	42,876	-26
East North Central	6,170	-52	48,137	-47	7,347	-50	46,175	-52
West North Central	10,298	-1	79,746	+5	9,138	-24	63,801	-15
South Atlantic	18,794	+41	106,054	+5	17,707	+6	107,720	-3
East South Central	3,575	-39	30,954	-34	4,286	-35	31,558	-36
West South Central	21,546	-1	190,679	+9	16,687	-18	149,814	-6
Mountain & Pacific	2,683	+38	18,682	+28	2,396	+9	17,830	+25
Vitrified clay sewer pipe (tons)								
U. S. TOTAL	190,528	+10	1,252,801	+2	187,421	-3	1,249,412	+1
Middle Atlantic	21,255	+11	126,546	-4	19,672	+2	119,814	-4
East North Central	81,108	+9	476,570	-5	83,312	-1	486,495	-5
West North Central	18,349	+11	133,562	+2	18,217	-3	126,720	-4
South Atlantic	15,785	+7	117,054	+17	15,554	+2	128,453	+26
E. & W. South Central	26,394	+26	192,713	+18	24,055	-5	183,126	+13
Mountain	5,223	+12	33,741	+18	4,622	-3	31,413	+14
Pacific	22,414	-1	172,615	-3	21,989	-15	173,391	-3

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census. ¹ Composition of regions, and nonfarm population distribution by region, are shown below table 2. ² Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

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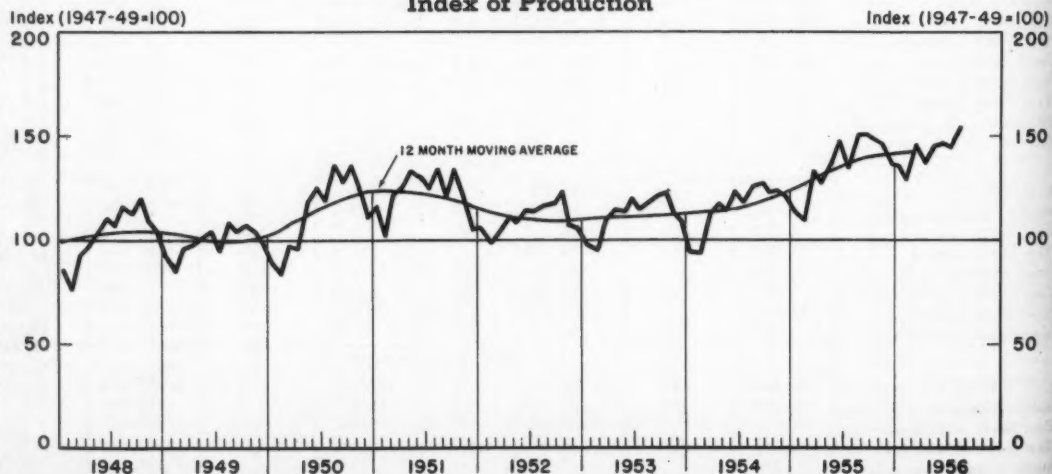
Table 37.--Heating and Plumbing Equipment: Shipments and Stocks

Period	Gas water heaters (Thousands of units)		C. I. convectors and radiators (Thousand square feet)		Warm air furnaces (Thousands of units)		Floor and wall furnaces (Thousands of units)		Residential oil burners ¹ (Thousands of units)
	Shipments	Stocks*	Shipments	Stocks*	Shipments	Stocks*	Shipments	Stocks*	Shipments
1947-49 average	1,818	67	50,980	4,377	794	69	552	44	541
Year: 1953	2,274	128	31,667	4,650	997	148	552	108	541
1954	2,236	103	28,386	5,434	1,132	130	550	74	494
1955	2,598	108	28,512	4,834	1,348	191	558	70	537
12 months ending:									
May 1956	2,671	--	28,214	--	1,334	--	523	--	492
June 1956	2,693	--	27,624	--	1,321	--	521	--	490
July 1956	2,713	--	27,718	--	1,325	--	522	--	482
August 1956	2,691	--	(2)	--	1,321	--	513	--	472
1955: August	260	69	3,615	6,378	164	187	57	85	60
September	224	93	3,326	5,845	164	187	65	71	68
October	219	91	3,115	5,234	150	172	72	61	62
November	185	102	2,779	4,666	121	177	54	61	39
December	175	108	1,773	4,834	80	191	38	70	27
1956: January	224	109	2,018	4,866	87	212	33	86	32
February	246	104	2,236	5,013	79	226	29	87	29
March	255	96	1,802	5,814	85	255	34	92	27
April	230	102	1,900	6,082	85	263	32	91	31
May	231	107	1,577	6,912	94	275	34	93	32
June	237	114	1,618	7,519	104	267	35	86	39
July	227	92	1,959	6,626	112	247	39	79	36
August	238	88	(2)	(2)	160	221	48	76	50
Percent change									
August, 1955-56	- 8	+28	--	--	- 2	+18	-16	-11	-17
First 8 mos., 1955-56	+ 5	--	--	--	- 3	--	-14	--	-19

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census. * As of end of period.

¹Sold separately.²Not yet available.

*Chart 13.

Clay Construction Products
Index of Production

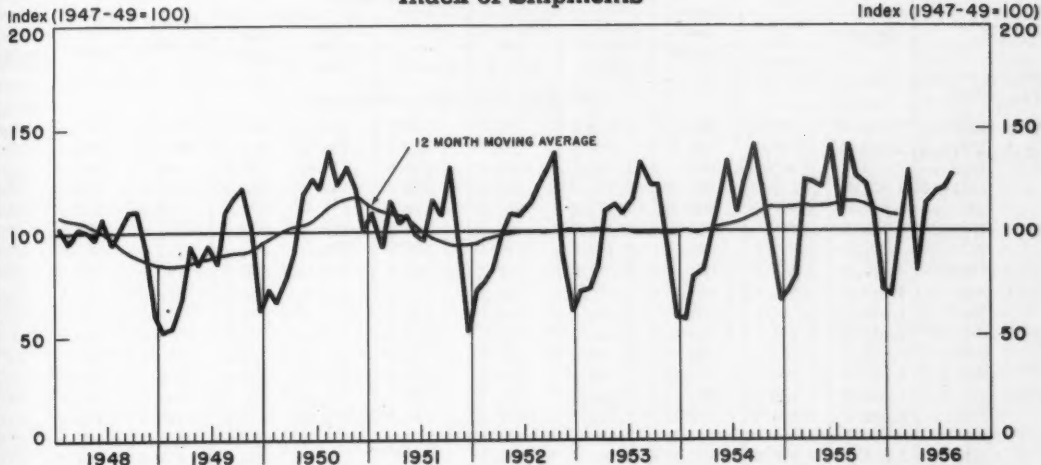
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Chart 14.

Asphalt Products

Index of Shipments



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

CONSTRUCTION REVIEW C.D. 56-10-N

Table 38.—Imports and Exports of Selected Construction Materials

Item	Unit of quantity	IMPORTS				EXPORTS			
		Year		First 6 months		Year		First 6 months	
		1954	1955	1955	1956	1954	1955	1955	1956
LUMBER, MILLWORK, & WOOD PRODUCTS									
Softwoods	MM bd. ft.	2,855	3,326	1,618	1,497	555	621	337	250
Hardwood flooring*	M bd. ft.	4,629	6,783	3,716	2,696	18,955	22,768	10,803	9,025
Wood doors	Units	249,796	250,070	121,000	125,229	22,762	36,687	15,660	n. a.
Wood window sash ¹	Units	--	--	--	--	6,915	20,084	11,638	n. a.
Wallboard (hardboard)	Tons	435	1,146	351	1,977	5,067	6,337	3,142	3,475
Hardboard**	Tons	24,716	39,681	15,907	35,793	--	--	--	--
Insulating wallboard	Tons	3,711	16,255	2,467	8,011	18,658	19,777	9,729	10,298
Insulation, flexible, wood and vegetable fiber ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	861	1,129	468	n. a.
Softwood plywood, interior ¹	M sq. ft.	2,164	9,400	5,439	3,334	4,112	3,977	833	n. a.
Softwood plywood, exterior ¹	M sq. ft.					2,570	4,144	3,046	n. a.
CEMENT, GYPSUM, & ASBESTOS:									
Portland cement	M bbls.	448	4,748	1,470	2,348	1,448	1,429	476	945
Asbestos construction materials	Tons	4,168	17,857	5,502	9,557	15,056	16,395	8,574	10,427
Gypsum board and lath ¹	M sq. ft.	--	--	--	--	20,969	8,687	3,217	n. a.
Asphalt tile ¹	M sq. yds.	--	--	--	--	2,263	2,683	1,228	1,045
IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS:									
Cast-iron pipe, pressure ¹	Tons	5,941	8,414	6,745	5,452	21,490	18,900	7,832	18,830
Cast-iron pipe, soil ¹	Tons					10,770	5,250	1,997	
Concrete reinforcing bars	Tons	164,099	156,966	55,284	87,409	29,856	73,968	43,557	58,242
Steel piling	Tons	1,814	5,364	1,370	11,711	21,369	9,612	5,068	7,006
Rails	Tons	3,511	6,278	1,374	1,982	96,595	57,650	27,581	16,769
Line pipe ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	155,108	72,380	22,790	162,703
Fabricated structural steel ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	48,179	87,690	37,075	42,485
Gas water heaters ¹	Units	--	--	--	--	27,154	30,436	13,852	16,676
CLAY PRODUCTS:									
Clay building and paving bricks	M brick	4,696	8,466	4,042	3,101	45,541	53,397	19,743	n. a.
Clay floor and wall tiles	M sq. ft.	5,311	16,119	1,064	14,100	6,087	6,749	3,594	2,790
Hollow building tile ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	20,709	20,300	8,239	n. a.
Clay sewer pipe and drain tile ¹	Tons	--	--	--	--	8,655	7,610	3,445	n. a.

Source: Table compiled by Department of Commerce (BDSA) from data reported by the Bureau of the Census.

* Imports include

poly maple (except Japanese), birch, and beech.

** Exports data not available.

n.a. Not available in time for publication.

Data for imports not available in same detail as for exports.

Part VII--Employment

Table 39.--Contract Construction: Employment by Type of Contractor

Period	All contractors	Building contractors							Nonbuilding contractors		
		All building contractors	General contractors	Special trades contractors					All non-building	Highway and street	Other non-building
				All special trades	Plumbing and heating	Painting and decorating	Electrical work	Other trades			
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (in thousands)											
Year: 1948.....	2,169.0	1,753.0	807.0	946.0	238.2	124.9	123.2	459.8	416.0	172.1	243.8
1949.....	2,165.0	1,736.0	779.0	957.0	241.7	123.4	122.1	469.5	428.0	178.1	250.3
1950.....	2,333.0	1,885.0	844.0	1,041.0	263.1	130.8	123.4	524.0	448.0	183.0	265.2
1951.....	2,603.0	2,109.0	957.6	1,151.7	286.9	155.7	140.5	568.7	493.0	201.3	291.9
1952.....	2,634.0	2,119.0	948.3	1,170.8	287.7	156.5	155.7	570.9	514.0	209.4	305.0
1953.....	2,622.0	2,109.0	934.0	1,175.1	288.9	148.1	159.7	578.4	513.0	214.9	297.8
1954.....	2,593.0	2,090.0	885.7	1,204.0	295.7	143.8	164.4	600.1	503.0	217.4	285.6
1955.....	2,780.0	2,279.0	937.7	1,341.6	318.3	165.6	169.1	688.6	501.0	222.9	278.2
1955: Aug.	3,088.0	2,502.0	1,047.4	1,454.7	338.9	192.9	172.9	750.0	586.0	277.9	308.1
Sept.	3,094.0	2,501.0	1,031.7	1,469.2	344.1	188.8	176.1	760.2	593.0	279.5	313.1
Oct.	3,031.0	2,458.0	1,009.3	1,448.3	340.7	183.8	177.8	746.0	573.0	266.2	306.9
Nov.	2,921.0	2,398.0	988.4	1,409.8	331.1	176.9	177.0	724.8	523.0	235.7	287.5
Dec.	2,756.0	2,306.0	941.6	1,364.1	322.0	161.1	175.0	706.0	450.0	187.3	262.4
1956: Jan.	2,588.0	2,185.0	880.0	1,304.8	311.9	142.5	172.2	678.2	403.0	156.5	246.3
Feb.	2,588.0	2,189.0	878.4	1,310.7	310.2	144.3	170.6	685.6	399.0	153.2	245.6
Mar.	2,669.0	2,244.0	914.2	1,330.1	313.5	147.3	170.7	698.6	425.0	168.0	256.8
Apr.	2,853.0	2,376.0	981.8	1,394.4	317.3	166.2	173.7	737.2	477.0	204.5	272.4
May	3,040.0	2,501.0	1,038.4	1,462.4	327.4	185.6	179.1	770.3	539.0	242.1	296.7
June.....	3,257.0	2,666.0	1,126.4	1,539.6	340.3	205.0	187.6	806.7	591.0	271.9	319.2
July.....	3,270.0	2,679.0	1,134.4	1,544.9	344.6	209.7	194.0	796.6	591.0	276.6	314.7
Aug.....	3,354.0	2,746.0	1,162.9	1,583.3	349.9	220.6	198.0	814.8	608.0	282.9	324.7
Sept.	3,301.0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Percent change											
July-Aug. 1956	+2.6	+2.5	+2.5	+2.5	+1.5	+5.2	+2.1	+2.3	+2.9	+2.3	+3.2
Aug. 1955-56....	+8.6	+9.8	+11.0	+8.8	+3.2	+14.4	+14.5	+8.6	+3.8	+1.8	+5.4

Source: Department of Labor.

* Percent change: Aug.-Sept. 1956--1.6; Sept. 1955-56--6.7.

1 Not yet available.

Table 40.--Contract Construction: Number of Employees and Indexes of Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual average
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (in thousands, seasonally adjusted)													
1948.....	2,120	2,015	2,065	2,105	2,136	2,184	2,199	2,212	2,220	2,229	2,249	2,251	2,169
1949.....	2,222	2,171	2,146	2,128	2,124	2,130	2,157	2,176	2,197	2,192	2,190	2,141	2,165
1950.....	2,119	2,101	2,105	2,173	2,236	2,337	2,405	2,451	2,473	2,502	2,517	2,471	2,333
1951.....	2,526	2,521	2,569	2,593	2,596	2,613	2,633	2,641	2,630	2,653	2,606	2,620	2,603
1952.....	2,599	2,624	2,588	2,586	2,597	2,645	2,658	2,672	2,682	2,648	2,650	2,632	2,634
1953.....	2,647	2,669	2,653	2,638	2,613	2,598	2,588	2,596	2,612	2,632	2,623	2,626	2,622
1954.....	2,533	2,583	2,600	2,614	2,603	2,599	2,591	2,594	2,586	2,584	2,618	2,615	2,593
1955.....	2,624	2,618	2,703	2,752	2,804	2,815	2,834	2,833	2,852	2,833	2,822	2,827	2,780
1956.....	2,876	2,924	2,966	3,003	3,055	3,132	3,056	3,077	3,042				
INDEXES (1947-49=100) OF EMPLOYMENT (seasonally adjusted) ¹													
1948.....	100.7	95.7	98.1	100.0	101.5	103.8	104.5	105.1	105.5	105.9	106.8	106.9	103.0
1949.....	105.6	103.1	101.9	101.1	100.9	101.2	102.5	103.4	104.4	104.1	104.0	101.7	102.9
1950.....	100.7	99.8	100.0	103.2	106.2	111.0	114.3	116.4	117.5	118.9	119.6	117.4	110.8
1951.....	120.0	119.8	122.0	123.2	123.3	124.1	125.1	125.5	124.9	126.0	123.8	124.5	123.7
1952.....	123.5	124.7	122.9	122.9	123.4	125.7	126.3	126.9	127.4	125.8	125.9	125.0	125.1
1953.....	125.7	126.8	126.0	125.3	124.1	123.4	122.9	123.3	124.1	125.0	124.6	124.8	124.6
1954.....	120.3	122.7	123.5	124.2	123.7	123.5	123.1	123.2	122.9	122.8	124.4	124.2	123.2
1955.....	124.7	124.4	128.4	130.7	133.2	133.7	134.6	134.6	135.5	134.6	134.1	134.3	132.1
1956.....	136.6	138.9	140.9	142.7	145.1	148.8	145.2	146.2	144.5				

Source: Department of Labor.
the Federal Reserve Board.¹ Indexes for months before January 1953 are based on seasonally adjusted employment data derived by

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Table 41.—Contract Construction: Employment, by State

State	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, Aug. 1955-56
	1956								1953	1954	1955	
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Aug.	Aug.	Aug.	
Alabama.....	32.0	32.5	32.8	34.4	35.3	36.7	36.8	37.4	36.3	32.3	35.4	+ 6
Arizona.....	18.2	17.7	17.7	17.9	18.3	19.0	18.8	19.2	16.4	17.8	17.9	+ 7
Arkansas.....	14.5	12.4	12.6	12.7	13.3	13.9	14.9	15.6	21.1	17.1	17.3	-10
California.....	257.7	273.0	281.5	288.3	296.8	305.6	300.8	(1)	268.1	260.9	291.4	--
Colorado.....	26.9	25.5	26.2	28.9	29.8	32.3	31.7	31.7	28.8	29.0	30.4	+ 4
Connecticut ²	41.7	40.3	40.8	42.5	46.6	48.7	51.0	50.8	44.2	45.2	48.9	+ 4
Delaware ¹	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
District of Columbia..	18.1	18.2	18.4	18.7	19.3	19.4	19.3	19.4	19.4	18.0	18.7	+ 4
Florida.....	88.3	87.3	86.7	86.3	89.3	91.3	95.0	97.7	82.1	86.0	97.2	+ 1
Georgia.....	49.3	50.6	51.4	53.8	55.7	58.9	58.5	58.5	55.5	46.1	54.7	+ 7
Idaho ³	6.7	6.0	7.0	8.5	9.9	11.1	11.0	11.0	10.8	10.7	10.9	+ 1
Illinois.....	161.5	157.3	165.1	177.8	187.0	199.6	204.1	204.7	178.5	180.0	185.4	+10
Indiana.....	62.6	61.2	62.5	69.4	74.8	80.5	78.6	80.8	69.4	63.7	77.0	+ 5
Iowa.....	25.9	25.1	26.4	31.9	34.2	37.5	39.1	39.4	39.7	42.4	36.6	+ 8
Kansas.....	33.9	32.8	37.2	39.8	42.3	43.8	43.8	41.9	40.9	40.8	44.9	- 7
Kentucky ¹	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Louisiana.....	55.9	54.8	56.1	57.6	56.9	56.6	57.1	59.3	60.8	55.6	53.9	+10
Maine.....	9.6	9.0	8.8	9.7	13.2	15.7	16.6	16.5	14.0	16.7	15.5	+ 6
Maryland.....	64.0	63.5	65.0	69.7	70.7	72.0	70.8	73.8	63.0	60.7	69.2	+ 7
Massachusetts.....	71.6	71.0	73.2	80.6	90.8	97.3	99.2	100.1	79.6	76.6	87.1	+15
Michigan.....	105.3	103.9	102.0	107.2	112.2	119.5	123.4	129.9	120.0	132.0	121.9	+ 7
Minnesota.....	46.3	43.6	42.5	47.0	56.5	63.3	63.7	67.9	57.0	65.4	67.8	(4)
Mississippi.....	14.8	12.8	13.6	14.4	15.5	16.1	16.9	(1)	21.7	17.3	18.4	--
Missouri.....	63.9	61.6	67.7	69.2	71.0	73.7	74.3	74.5	63.7	74.2	84.8	-12
Montana.....	8.2	7.5	8.0	10.3	12.4	13.4	14.2	14.2	11.1	14.1	14.8	- 4
Nebraska.....	21.2	20.0	21.5	24.3	26.2	28.1	28.3	28.9	24.0	25.9	28.5	+ 1
Nevada.....	7.6	7.3	7.8	7.6	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.8	10.0	10.0	-16
New Hampshire ³	7.6	7.3	7.2	8.5	10.4	11.2	11.2	11.0	7.9	10.3	11.8	- 7
New Jersey.....	94.7	97.0	100.1	109.4	111.2	121.7	125.9	128.5	99.1	103.1	113.3	+13
New Mexico.....	13.5	13.6	13.8	14.1	13.9	14.9	14.8	14.4	15.6	14.7	16.0	-10
New York.....	213.3	209.6	211.5	230.6	248.3	258.7	263.5	267.7	213.2	253.1	252.8	+ 6
North Carolina.....	47.2	46.8	47.7	48.6	50.3	52.3	52.4	51.7	56.4	51.6	53.4	- 3
North Dakota.....	5.1	4.9	4.9	7.1	9.8	11.5	12.3	(1)	12.6	15.2	11.1	--
Ohio.....	148.0	144.0	147.5	157.2	152.3	172.4	175.0	178.2	168.6	187.3	181.7	- 2
Oklahoma.....	29.1	28.7	30.3	30.9	31.9	32.2	33.5	33.8	32.9	33.8	34.3	- 1
Oregon.....	19.7	19.4	20.7	22.6	24.8	26.6	28.5	28.8	29.3	26.5	29.8	- 3
Pennsylvania.....	157.2	155.8	163.4	178.8	183.9	199.5	199.4	204.9	201.8	191.9	202.3	+ 1
Rhode Island.....	14.3	14.8	15.2	17.3	18.0	19.1	19.1	19.0	16.2	16.1	18.3	+ 4
South Carolina.....	26.1	26.9	26.4	27.1	26.9	28.0	27.5	28.3	51.4	37.2	32.2	-12
South Dakota.....	4.9	4.6	4.6	6.8	8.9	9.6	9.7	10.1	11.6	12.2	9.9	+ 2
Tennessee.....	41.5	40.7	41.8	42.5	43.6	43.6	44.8	46.6	57.6	59.3	49.8	- 6
Texas.....	154.3	153.4	157.8	157.8	160.2	164.7	171.3	171.9	159.4	156.6	168.7	+ 2
Utah.....	12.5	11.4	13.0	14.8	15.5	16.0	17.6	18.0	13.5	13.9	18.0	0
Vermont.....	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.8	4.6	5.3	5.6	5.7	4.9	5.2	5.4	+ 6
Virginia.....	60.2	61.1	63.5	66.4	69.5	71.7	72.2	71.8	64.6	60.1	66.0	+ 9
Washington.....	39.3	38.4	40.9	43.6	47.0	49.5	51.6	52.1	52.5	54.1	53.4	- 2
West Virginia.....	17.7	18.5	18.0	19.4	21.1	22.7	23.3	24.8	25.2	21.4	21.7	+14
Wisconsin.....	56.5	55.5	54.4	57.3	64.7	70.4	72.3	74.2	58.5	57.2	68.2	+ 9
Wyoming ³	4.8	4.7	4.9	5.7	6.7	7.6	8.4	9.1	7.8	7.9	8.7	+ 5

Source: Department of Labor. ¹ Not available. ² Includes a small number of employees in mining. ³ Data for Idaho and Wyoming are revised from January 1955; for New Hampshire, from January 1954. Revised figures for months not shown here are available on request. ⁴ Change of less than one-half of 1 percent.

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Table 42.—Contract Construction: Employment in Selected Areas

Area	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, Aug. 1955-56
	1956								1953	1954	1955	
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Aug.	Aug.	Aug.	
Albany-Schenectady-Troy, N. Y. ..	6.3	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.9	7.3	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.4	7.6	+ 8
Albuquerque, N. Mex.	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.2	4.8	5.0	6.1	-15
Atlanta, Ga.	19.1	19.6	19.6	20.3	21.0	21.8	21.4	20.7	17.1	14.2	20.7	0
Baltimore, Md.	42.5	42.0	43.2	46.1	46.6	47.1	45.4	48.0	39.4	37.9	44.2	+ 9
Baton Rouge, La.	6.2	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.6	6.9	7.0	(1)	6.3	5.7	+23
Binghamton, N. Y.	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.7	3.2	2.9	+10
Birmingham, Ala.	10.5	10.3	10.4	11.1	11.9	12.2	12.4	12.6	11.9	10.3	12.1	+ 4
Boise, Idaho	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.5	1.9	2.0	0
Boston, Mass.	42.1	41.8	43.1	47.0	53.1	57.2	58.5	59.3	47.7	42.4	50.9	+17
Bridgeport, Conn. ³	4.9	4.6	4.8	5.3	5.6	6.0	6.3	6.4	5.6	6.0	6.3	+ 2
Buffalo, N. Y.	18.3	16.9	16.8	19.1	21.9	23.4	23.9	25.1	21.3	21.8	22.7	+11
Casper, Wyo. ....	.7	.8	.9	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.1	+27
Charleston, S. C.	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.1	2.9	3.0	4.6	3.2	2.8	+ 7
Charleston, W. Va.	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.9	3.9	4.0	8.8	5.8	4.1	- 2
Charlotte, N. C.	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.3	6.4	6.6	5.2	+ 2
Chattanooga, Tenn.	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.5	3.8	3.8	5.1	4.6	4.8	-21
Chicago, Ill.	114.0	112.6	117.0	125.8	132.0	138.3	138.7	140.4	117.0	117.9	126.2	+11
Denver, Colo.	16.9	16.3	16.9	19.3	19.9	21.5	20.9	20.6	17.8	18.6	19.8	+ 4
Des Moines, Iowa	4.2	4.1	4.4	5.2	5.7	6.2	6.2	6.4	4.9	5.9	5.6	+14
Detroit, Mich.	60.2	59.9	57.4	57.0	59.6	61.5	63.4	67.0	64.9	73.9	65.9	+ 2
Duluth, Minn.	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.2	+23
Evansville, Ind.	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.5	3.6	4.0	4.3	+ 5
Fargo, N. D.	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.3	2.3	(1)	2.3	2.4	2.5	--
Fort Wayne, Ind.	2.7	2.4	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.6	4.0	3.6	3.3	+ 9
Great Falls, Mont.	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.7	1.7	2.0	0
Harrisburg, Pa.	6.5	6.1	6.4	7.7	6.0	8.9	9.3	9.3	7.4	8.7	7.9	+18
Hartford, Conn. ³	8.4	8.0	8.3	9.0	10.3	10.7	10.8	10.8	9.6	10.2	9.8	+10
Indianapolis, Ind.	11.5	11.1	11.5	12.3	13.3	14.0	14.5	14.8	13.5	13.4	15.4	- 4
Jackson, Miss.	3.8	3.5	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.2	(1)	(1)	5.0	-16
Jacksonville, Fla.	8.9	8.8	8.7	8.6	9.0	9.4	9.5	9.6	7.2	10.5	9.2	+ 4
Kansas City, Mo.	19.5	19.0	19.3	19.7	20.0	20.4	20.5	20.3	23.3	22.4	21.3	- 5
Knoxville, Tenn.	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.4	6.1	6.5	6.3	13.1	16.5	9.1	-31
Lewiston, Maine	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.5	+13
Little Rock-N. Little Rock, Ark.	5.6	4.7	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.6	5.2	6.6	-12
Los Angeles, Calif.	122.7	128.5	133.2	132.7	135.5	138.7	138.6	(1)	124.5	118.8	133.4	--
Louisville, Ky.	11.2	11.0	11.6	12.3	13.7	14.2	14.4	14.2	(1)	16.8	16.2	-12
Manchester, N. H. ²	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.3	1.6	1.9	2.5	- 8
Memphis, Tenn.	11.5	10.7	11.1	11.2	11.7	11.8	11.7	11.8	10.6	11.1	12.5	- 6
Miami, Fla.	22.3	21.6	21.1	21.0	22.4	23.7	24.8	26.0	20.5	22.7	26.0	0
Milwaukee, Wis.	21.5	21.3	20.9	21.8	23.3	24.8	24.9	26.0	(1)	19.8	23.9	+ 9
Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.	24.6	24.1	24.7	27.9	30.5	31.7	33.1	33.9	30.6	30.2	32.0	+ 6
Mobile, Ala.	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	5.1	1.8	4.5	+ 7
Nashville, Tenn.	7.1	7.2	7.8	8.3	8.4	7.4	6.9	8.5	9.3	7.5	8.1	+ 5
New Bedford, Mass.	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.7	+ 6
New Britain, Conn. ³	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	+15
New Haven, Conn. ³	5.6	5.6	5.7	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.9	7.1	6.2	6.6	6.7	+ 6
New Orleans, La.	15.9	15.2	15.1	15.3	15.2	13.3	15.2	16.2	20.3	22.0	17.9	- 9
New York-Northeastern N. Jersey ⁴ ..	196.6	197.2	203.3	213.3	223.6	235.1	235.8	238.3	(1)	216.7	227.8	+ 5
Newark-Jersey City, N. J.	26.4	25.6	25.9	27.7	29.8	31.2	32.0	31.4	30.0	29.3	31.2	+ 1
Paterson, N. J.	18.8	19.4	19.6	21.5	20.2	26.4	25.2	26.3	(1)	22.7	23.4	+12
Perth Amboy, N. J.	6.0	6.4	6.6	7.3	7.3	7.9	8.5	8.5	(1)	6.6	7.3	+16
Nassau-Suffolk Counties, N. Y.	24.4	25.3	27.3	27.5	31.2	31.4	31.8	31.5	22.6	30.0	32.9	- 4
New York, New York	106.0	106.7	109.9	113.4	117.5	118.9	118.6	120.3	83.6	108.9	112.5	+ 7
Westchester County, N. Y.	13.2	12.3	12.5	14.3	15.4	16.9	17.0	17.6	(1)	16.9	17.8	- 1

See footnotes at end of table.

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Table 42.—Contract Construction: Employment in Selected Areas—Continued

Area	Number of employees (in thousands)											Percent change, Aug. 1955-56
	1956								1953	1954	1955	
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Aug.	Aug.	Aug.	
Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.	10.0	10.1	10.5	10.9	11.5	12.3	12.4	12.7	13.5	12.3	11.5	+10
Oklahoma City, Okla.	9.8	9.7	10.4	10.7	10.6	11.0	11.0	10.8	9.3	10.0	11.2	- 4
Omaha, Nebr.	7.0	6.5	6.7	7.3	7.8	8.0	8.2	8.6	9.7	9.3	8.1	+ 6
Phoenix, Ariz.	10.1	9.8	9.6	9.6	9.8	10.0	10.0	10.2	7.6	8.6	9.2	+11
Pittsburgh, Pa.	39.2	39.5	41.4	45.3	46.0	47.9	46.4	49.3	44.8	37.1	45.9	+ 7
Portland, Maine	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.8	3.5	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.0	+10
Portland, Oreg.	11.8	11.1	12.0	12.5	13.3	14.5	14.8	14.8	15.9	14.3	16.0	- 8
Providence, R. I.	12.7	13.1	13.5	15.3	16.0	16.9	16.9	16.9	14.4	14.3	16.2	+ 4
Racine, Wis.	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.6	(1)	2.1	2.3	+13
Reno, Nev.	1.9	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.3	1.9	2.3	2.5	- 8
Richmond, Va.	10.5	11.0	11.3	12.0	12.4	13.0	12.8	12.9	11.5	10.0	11.6	+11
Rochester, N. Y.	8.5	8.1	8.3	9.0	9.2	10.8	11.3	(1)	9.5	10.2	11.2	--
Rockford, Ill. ³	3.3	3.2	3.4	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.5	3.3	3.9	4.3	+ 5
St. Louis, Mo. ⁴	40.1	38.0	40.5	42.5	42.9	44.6	44.6	44.2	(1)	44.4	48.1	- 8
Salt Lake City, Utah	7.8	7.1	8.0	8.8	8.9	9.5	9.6	9.8	7.5	8.1	10.0	- 2
San Diego, Calif.	12.5	12.6	12.9	13.3	13.5	13.8	14.0	(1)	14.2	12.0	13.1	--
San Francisco-Oakland, Calif.	54.2	58.4	59.1	61.1	62.2	63.4	58.7	(1)	61.4	58.9	64.6	--
San Jose, Calif.	9.0	9.7	10.1	10.8	11.2	11.6	10.9	(1)	8.3	10.0	10.9	--
Savannah, Ga.	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.3	3.7	3.5	3.6	4.6	2.7	3.2	+13
Seattle, Wash.	12.6	12.7	13.1	14.2	15.2	15.7	16.2	16.4	13.9	13.5	15.9	+ 3
Sioux Falls, S. D.	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.0	(1)	(1)	2.3	-13
South Bend, Ind.	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.2	4.4	-16
Spokane, Wash.	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.8	4.7	5.5	5.8	5.9	4.6	4.8	5.7	+ 4
Springfield-Holyoke, Mass.	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.6	6.6	6.9	6.9	7.0	4.7	5.7	6.3	+11
Stamford, Conn. ⁵	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.2	3.5	3.5	4.1	+ 2
Syracuse, N. Y.	5.6	5.3	5.5	6.0	7.0	7.6	8.1	8.8	8.1	8.8	7.0	+26
Tacoma, Wash.	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.1	4.6	0
Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla.	14.1	13.6	14.1	14.0	14.1	14.3	14.6	14.8	11.9	13.2	13.4	+10
Topeka, Kans. ²	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.3	3.1	3.1	3.3	+30
Trenton, N. J.	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.5	4.2	(1)	4.3	4.1	+ 2
Tucson, Ariz.	4.6	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.7	5.6	5.7	3.9	3.8	4.2	+36
Tulsa, Okla.	7.8	7.8	8.3	8.4	9.1	8.7	9.6	9.9	8.1	8.6	8.8	+13
Utica-Rome, N. Y.	2.8	2.6	2.8	3.3	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.2	3.7	3.9	3.3	+27
Washington, D. C.	43.0	43.1	43.8	45.5	46.5	46.7	46.9	47.0	40.8	40.9	46.4	+ 1
Waterbury, Conn. ³	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.5	- 4
Wheeling-Steubenville, W. Va. ^{5*}	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.2	- 8
Wichita, Kans.	6.5	6.1	6.6	6.9	7.4	7.8	7.9	7.4	7.7	8.4	8.7	-15
Worcester, Mass.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.6	4.1	3.5	3.1	+16

Source: Department of Labor.

¹ Not available.² Data revised from January 1955.³ Includes a small number of employees in

mining.

⁴ Data revised from January 1954.⁵ Data revised from January 1952.

* Revised data for months not shown here are

available upon request.

Table 43.--Contract Construction: Indexes of Aggregate Weekly Man-Hours

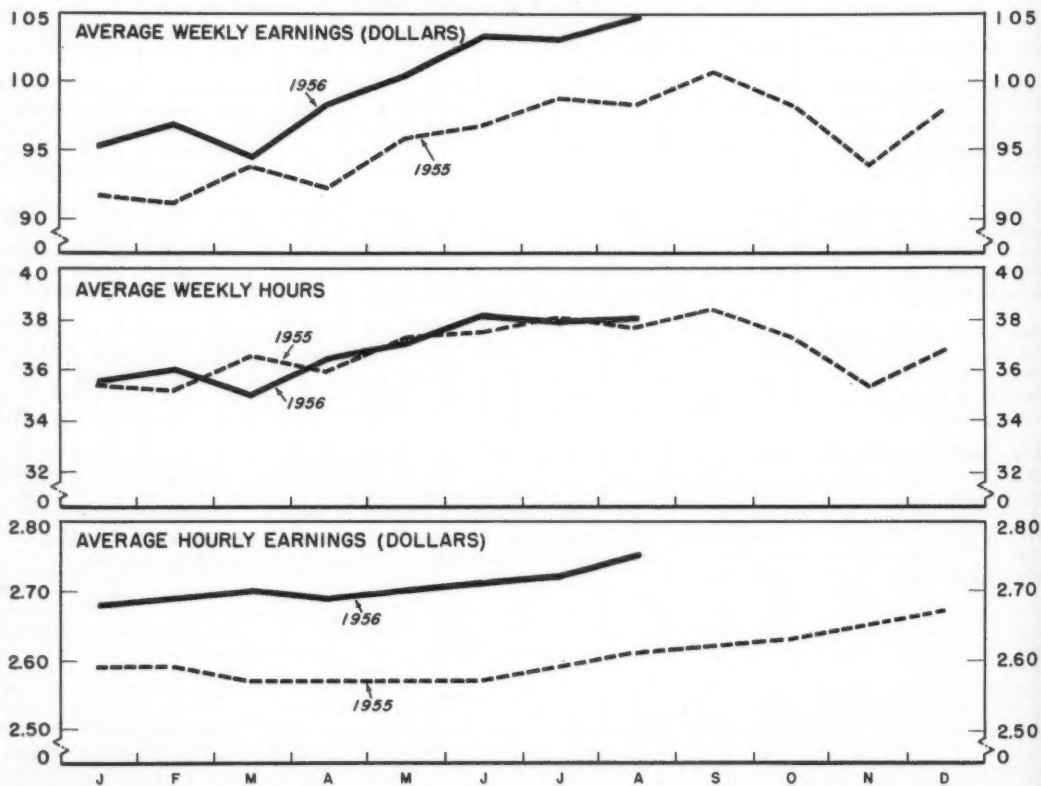
(1947-49=100)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual average
1948.....	89.6	81.3	86.7	95.0	102.2	111.9	115.1	117.3	116.2	113.3	106.6	105.4	103.4
1949.....	94.2	88.9	89.2	95.0	103.1	106.8	110.5	114.2	111.5	111.4	104.4	94.9	102.0
1950.....	84.6	79.5	83.7	95.8	106.1	116.7	122.1	129.5	126.1	128.9	123.9	112.7	109.1
1951.....	106.4	99.3	105.4	116.9	126.4	131.8	137.7	141.1	138.5	139.8	124.2	121.6	124.1
1952.....	111.1	112.3	108.3	117.5	125.4	136.8	138.9	143.2	144.0	139.9	128.2	123.9	127.5
1953.....	109.1	108.7	109.1	115.8	122.6	130.4	132.0	137.2	131.7	136.7	126.7	117.2	123.1
1954.....	95.5	102.8	106.4	113.5	120.3	128.0	131.4	134.0	128.6	128.6	123.3	114.4	118.9
1955.....	101.4	98.6	108.4	115.5	129.3	136.5	144.1	145.1	148.5	140.8	128.2	124.3	126.7
1956.....	112.0	113.0	114.0	128.1	140.0	154.4	154.4	160.0					

Source: Department of Labor.

Chart 15.

Hours and Earnings of Workers In Contract Construction



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Table 44.—Contract Construction: Hours and Gross Earnings of Construction Workers

Period	All construction	Building construction							Nonbuilding construction		
		All building contractors	General contractors	Special trades contractors					All non-building	Highway and street	Other non-building
				All special trades	Plumbing and heating	Painting and decorating	Electrical work	Other trades			
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS											
Year: 1953.....	\$91.61	\$91.76	\$87.75	\$94.79	\$98.30	\$87.10	\$111.61	\$91.04	\$90.27	\$85.28	\$93.85
1954.....	93.98	94.12	89.41	97.38	102.71	90.39	112.71	93.19	92.86	86.88	97.36
1955.....	95.94	96.03	90.22	100.83	106.68	94.38	116.82	96.21	94.87	91.05	98.50
1955: August.....	98.14	97.99	92.23	102.03	107.34	96.72	118.60	97.73	99.01	96.75	101.15
September.....	100.61	100.23	93.61	105.28	109.80	99.25	120.90	101.28	102.29	102.13	102.75
October.....	98.10	98.01	91.55	102.76	108.96	97.30	121.30	97.54	99.36	96.90	101.40
November.....	93.81	94.04	88.24	98.28	105.28	91.58	117.43	92.89	92.64	89.21	95.76
December.....	97.99	98.19	92.11	102.93	109.42	96.26	122.00	97.23	94.95	87.47	101.12
1956: January.....	95.41	96.17	88.75	101.10	109.16	94.24	120.26	94.58	93.17	85.19	98.43
February.....	96.84	97.27	90.30	102.03	107.82	94.92	122.36	96.88	94.43	86.14	99.85
March.....	94.50	95.15	87.98	99.81	108.58	95.26	120.12	93.01	91.88	84.90	96.38
April.....	98.19	99.00	92.20	103.82	108.00	95.57	120.74	100.04	94.86	88.65	100.10
May.....	100.44	100.74	93.96	105.62	111.45	99.62	122.22	101.44	99.31	94.16	103.86
June.....	103.25	103.42	96.42	108.38	113.00	101.24	124.66	104.80	104.90	102.49	106.75
July.....	103.09	103.23	96.52	107.59	113.58	100.04	124.03	103.94	105.15	102.70	107.68
August.....	104.78	104.53	97.68	109.29	114.64	103.39	126.72	105.33	106.42	104.68	108.09
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS											
Year: 1953.....	37.7	37.0	37.5	36.6	38.1	34.7	39.3	35.7	40.3	41.2	39.6
1954.....	37.0	36.2	36.2	36.2	37.9	34.5	38.6	35.3	40.2	40.6	39.9
1955.....	36.9	36.1	35.8	36.4	38.1	34.7	39.2	35.5	40.2	41.2	39.4
1955: August.....	37.6	36.7	36.6	36.7	38.2	35.3	39.8	35.8	41.6	43.0	40.3
September.....	38.4	37.4	37.0	37.6	38.8	35.7	39.9	37.1	42.8	44.6	41.1
October.....	37.3	36.3	35.9	36.7	38.5	35.0	39.9	35.6	41.4	42.5	40.4
November.....	35.4	34.7	34.2	35.1	37.2	33.3	38.5	33.9	38.6	39.3	38.0
December.....	36.7	36.1	35.7	36.5	38.8	34.5	40.0	35.1	39.4	39.4	39.5
1956: January.....	35.6	35.1	34.4	35.6	38.3	33.9	39.3	33.9	38.5	38.9	38.3
February.....	36.0	35.5	35.0	35.8	37.7	33.9	39.6	34.6	38.7	38.8	38.7
March.....	35.0	34.6	34.1	34.9	37.7	33.9	39.0	33.1	37.5	37.4	37.5
April.....	36.5	36.0	35.6	36.3	37.5	34.6	39.2	35.6	39.2	39.4	39.1
May.....	37.2	36.5	36.0	36.8	38.3	35.2	39.3	36.1	40.7	41.3	40.1
June.....	38.1	37.2	36.8	37.5	38.7	35.9	39.7	36.9	42.3	43.8	40.9
July.....	37.9	37.0	36.7	37.1	38.5	35.1	39.5	36.6	42.4	43.7	41.1
August.....	38.1	37.2	37.0	37.3	38.6	35.9	39.6	36.7	42.4	43.8	41.1
AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS											
Year: 1953.....	\$2.43	\$2.48	\$2.34	\$2.59	\$2.58	\$2.51	\$2.84	\$2.55	\$2.24	\$2.07	\$2.37
1954.....	2.54	2.60	2.47	2.69	2.71	2.62	2.92	2.64	2.31	2.14	2.44
1955.....	2.60	2.66	2.52	2.77	2.80	2.72	2.98	2.71	2.36	2.21	2.50
1955: August.....	2.61	2.67	2.52	2.78	2.81	2.74	2.98	2.73	2.38	2.25	2.51
September.....	2.62	2.68	2.53	2.80	2.83	2.78	3.03	2.73	2.39	2.29	2.50
October.....	2.63	2.70	2.55	2.80	2.83	2.78	3.04	2.74	2.40	2.28	2.51
November.....	2.65	2.71	2.58	2.80	2.83	2.75	3.05	2.74	2.40	2.27	2.52
December.....	2.67	2.72	2.58	2.82	2.82	2.79	3.05	2.77	2.41	2.22	2.56
1956: January.....	2.68	2.74	2.58	2.84	2.85	2.78	3.06	2.79	2.42	2.19	2.57
February.....	2.69	2.74	2.58	2.85	2.86	2.80	3.09	2.80	2.44	2.22	2.58
March.....	2.70	2.75	2.58	2.86	2.88	2.81	3.08	2.81	2.45	2.27	2.57
April.....	2.69	2.75	2.59	2.86	2.88	2.82	3.08	2.81	2.42	2.25	2.56
May.....	2.70	2.76	2.61	2.87	2.91	2.83	3.11	2.81	2.44	2.28	2.59
June.....	2.71	2.78	2.62	2.89	2.92	2.82	3.14	2.84	2.48	2.34	2.61
July.....	2.72	2.79	2.63	2.90	2.95	2.85	3.14	2.84	2.48	2.35	2.62
August.....	2.75	2.81	2.64	2.93	2.97	2.88	3.20	2.87	2.51	2.39	2.63
Percent change, Aug. 1955 to 1956											
Avg. wkly. earnings ..	+6.8	+6.7	+5.9	+7.1	+6.8	+6.9	+6.8	+7.8	+7.5	+8.2	+6.9
Avg. wkly. hours.....	+1.3	+1.4	+1.1	+1.6	+1.0	+1.7	-.5	+2.5	+1.9	+1.9	+2.0
Avg. hrly. earnings....	+5.4	+5.2	+4.8	+5.4	+5.7	+5.1	+7.4	+5.1	+5.5	+6.2	+4.8

Source: Department of Labor.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Construction Review brings together under one cover virtually all of the Government's current statistics that pertain to construction. Published jointly by the U. S. Department of Commerce and the U. S. Department of Labor, this monthly report is designed to serve the wide variety of groups and individuals among businessmen, government officials, legislators, labor unions, research workers, and the general public who need a convenient reference to the many facets by which current trends in construction may be gaged.

The various measures of construction are shown in detail wherever possible, by type of construction, trade, or material, and in addition, by location. The Index to statistical tables is a guide to the detail provided by each tabulation.

Most of the statistical series shown are prepared separately or jointly by the two agencies responsible for this publication. The remainder, specifically accredited, originate in other governmental agencies or are contributed by private organizations.¹

Almost all the statistics are presented on a monthly basis; the rest, quarterly. Except where noted, all data relate to the continental United States.

DEFINITION OF THE SERIES

Part I--Construction Put in Place. Construction, for the purpose of this series, is defined to include the engineering, design, and production of all fixed works and structures. Only new construction, including major additions and alterations, is covered; maintenance and repair work is excluded. The estimates cover build-

ings; other structures such as dams, levees, and bridges; and nonstructural works such as airfields, highways, canals, and navigation channels. They include the installed value of equipment generally considered an integral part of a structure and commonly included in the contract price, such as plumbing, heating, and air conditioning equipment and elevators. They exclude separable equipment, such as production machinery, power-generating equipment, and furnishings.

Clearing and development of land is included. If, however, an existing structure is demolished in the process, the demolition itself is excluded. Excluded also are oil, gas, and water well drilling; the digging and shoring of mines; and work which is an integral part of farming operations such as plowing, terracing, and the digging of drainage ditches.

Value of construction includes the cost of architectural and engineering fees, land development costs, material and equipment installed, labor, overhead, and profit on construction operations, but not speculative profits. Also included are the value of force-account work (construction done, not through a contractor, but directly by a business or government agency using a separate work force to perform nonmaintenance construction on the agency's own properties), as well as the value of work done by owners or their families on their own homes, farm buildings, and the like.

Estimates of the value of construction measure the value of work put in place on all structures and facilities under construction during a given period regardless of when work on each individual project was started.

¹The private contributors are as follows: American Appraisal Co. (525 E. Michigan St., Milwaukee 2, Wis.), Associated General Contractors of America, Inc. (329 E St., N. W., Washington 4, D. C.), E. H. Boeckh and Associates (1406 M St., N. W., Washington 5, D. C.), and the Engineering News-Record (330 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y.), which provide this bulletin with construction cost indexes; the F. W. Dodge Corporation (119 W. 40th St., New York, N. Y.), which provides contract award values for the 37 eastern States; and the following private associations whose materials production, shipments, and other statistics on materials are published here: American Institute of Steel Construction (101 Park Ave., New York 17, N. Y.), American Iron and Steel Institute (350 Fifth Ave., New York 1, N. Y.), Douglas Fir Plywood Association (Tacoma Bldg., Tacoma 2, Wash.), National Electric Manufacturers Association (155 E. 44th St., New York 17, N. Y.), National Lumber Manufacturers Association (1319 18th St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C.), and National Wood Work Manufacturers Association (332 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago 4, Ill.).

Federally owned construction covers all projects financed exclusively with Federal funds, whether the work is done by force-account or by private contractors. State and locally owned construction, which also covers both force-account and private-contract work, includes projects financed entirely by State and local governments, as well as projects financed in part by the Federal Government under grants-in-aid programs. Thus, the value figures for State and locally owned construction include the funds obtained from all three levels of government—Federal, State, and local. For the most part, the types of projects involving both Federal and State or local government monies are highways, airfields, schools, hospitals, and sewage-disposal and water-supply facilities.

Part II—New Housing. The housing series in this report cover only permanent and housekeeping dwelling units, which are defined as dwelling places containing permanent cooking facilities, or the minimum built-in facilities essential to housekeeping.

The series on the number of new permanent nonfarm dwelling units started, widely known as housing starts, includes prefabricated housing (if permanent), but excludes conversions (which are not new dwelling units) and hotel, dormitory accommodations, and military barracks (none of which are housekeeping dwellings). Excluded also are all temporary dwelling units, such as trailers, sheds, and shacks, as well as all farm housing.

The housing starts estimates are based on local building permits issued (adjusted for canceled permits and for lag between permit issuance and start of construction) and public contracts awarded, plus a field count of units started in a sample of nonpermit-issuing places.

Construction is said to have started when excavation work for the basement or the foundation of the structure has commenced.

This series was revised beginning with data for January 1954. The new series presents statistics for the 4 broad Census regions (Northeast, North Central, South, and West) and for the metropolitan, as compared with the nonmet-

ropolitan segment of the country. Estimates by metropolitan-nonmetropolitan location have been carried back on a monthly basis through January 1953, and on an annual basis through 1950.

These geographic data replace the urban-rural classification used previously. Also, rental-type units in the new series are classified as 2-4 family and 5-or-more family structures, compared with the former classification of 2-family and 3-or-more family structures.

Construction cost data shown here represent the average of builders' estimates of the construction cost of all new private 1-family houses started nationally. The construction cost averages are affected by variations in size and design of the houses, in the size and type of projects started, and differences in construction methods, as well as changes in cost of materials and labor. They do not represent the construction cost of a typical house, and should not be confused with selling price or permit valuation.

The cost data are based primarily on builders' estimates of construction cost as shown on the building permit, and on reports of construction cost by individual construction contractors in a representative group of localities not issuing permits. Building-permit information is adjusted for the general understatement of costs shown on permit applications.

The construction cost figures cover the cost of labor, materials, and subcontracted work, and that part of the builders' overhead and profit chargeable directly to the building of the houses. Included are the costs of equipment which becomes an integral part of the structure and is essential to its general use. Excluded are the costs of land, site improvement, architectural and engineering fees, and sales profits.

While the series on total nonfarm dwelling units started, as well as the series on units started under FHA and VA programs, cover new housing only, as distinguished from converted or existing housing, the statistics on nonfarm mortgage recordings of \$20,000 or less refer to both new and existing structures. Furthermore, the latter series covers all types of building construction, but resi-

dential building accounts for the larger proportion of these mortgage recordings.

Part III--Building Permits. The statistics on building construction authorized by local building permits, beginning with data for January 1954, measure building activity in all localities having building-permit systems--rural nonfarm as well as urban. Such localities (over 7,000) include about 80 percent of the total nonfarm population of the country, according to the 1950 Census.

The building-construction data cover federally as well as nonfederally owned projects. Figures on the amount of construction contracts awarded for Federal projects and for public housing (Federal, State, and local) in permit-issuing places are added to the valuation data (estimated cost entered by builders on building-permit applications) for privately owned projects; construction undertaken by State and local governments is reported by local officials.

No adjustment has been made in the building-permit data to reflect the fact that permit valuations generally understate the actual cost of construction, nor for lapsed permits or the lag between permit issuance or contract-award dates and start of construction. Therefore, they should not be considered as representing the volume of building construction started.

Statistics shown in this report for the total metropolitan area of the country represent the 168 Standard Metropolitan Areas used in the 1950 Census. Data for individual metropolitan areas (which were selected from those for which building-permit coverage is complete or virtually complete) include an estimate for non-permit-issuing places in each area.

Permit valuation figures do not include the costs of (1) demolishing or moving buildings, (2) nonbuilding construction (e.g., streets and highways, pipelines, water and sewer systems, etc.), or (3) land, land development, and architectural and engineering fees.

The builders' estimates of cost as reported on the building permit, basically include the value of labor and materials involved. However, because of differences in requirements, administration,

and enforcement among the many local permit systems covered in this series, and variations in how individuals report, precise information is lacking regarding the extent to which the cost of service facilities essential to the general use of the building, or builders' overhead and profit, are included.

Dwelling units are defined the same for the building-permit series as for the series presented in Part II (New Housing) of this report. The nonhousekeeping residential building shown here is comprised of such structures as hotels, dormitories, tourist cabins, and clubs and association buildings with bedrooms.

Part IV--Contract Awards. The value of contracts awarded represents the amount of the construction contracts let during a given period of time for new construction, including major additions and alterations. Maintenance and repair work is not covered. As in the "construction put in place" series, equipment which becomes an integral part of structures and is essential to their general use is included, as well as costs of land development, materials, labor, and contractors' overhead and profit on construction operations. Similarly, the value of Federal force-account work is also included, but the cost of land and separable equipment are excluded. However, unlike the construction put in place series, the statistics on contracts awarded exclude architectural and engineering fees and non-Federal force-account work, but include a small amount of demolition work when it is part of the overall contract for new construction.

Figures on federally owned projects are compiled from notifications of construction contracts awarded, obtained from other Federal agencies. Data on non-Federal construction are obtained from records compiled by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, for the 37 States east of the Rocky Mountains. For the remaining States, they are based on reports from local building-permit officials, augmented by reports on construction contract awards which appear in a number of construction trade periodicals. Inquiries about the Dodge contract-award series may be addressed directly to that company.

Part V--Costs. The Department of Commerce composite construction cost index is a combination of various cost indexes prepared by private organizations and other government agencies, weighted monthly by the current relative importance of the major classes of construction shown in the series on construction put in place. It is, therefore, the equivalent of a variable weighted indicator, reflecting monthly changes not only in the component indexes, but also in the relative importance of the major classes of construction which are used as weights.

The individual private indexes reported monthly by the American Appraisal Company, Associated General Contractors, E. H. Boeckh and Associates, and the Engineering News-Record are computed from quotations for a designated bill of materials and a specified amount of labor. The indexes differ as to the amounts and kinds of materials and labor measured, geographic coverage, and the extent to which adjustments are made for variations in labor efficiency, overhead and other factors affecting construction costs.

Cost indexes applicable to particular locations and special types of construction may be obtained from most of these compilers.

All materials usually incorporated into buildings by the general contractor, or his subcontractors, are covered in the index of wholesale prices of building materials. Specifically excluded are consumer durable goods such as kitchen ranges, refrigerators, and air-conditioning equipment. Goods of constant quality are priced from period to period, so that the index measures the effect only of price, rather than of quality change. "Wholesale" refers to sales in large lots, at primary market levels.

The series was revised, beginning with the January 1952 index, to include the pricing of additional materials, a different weighting pattern, and a change in the pricing period. The revised index, based on 1947-49=100, is the "official" wholesale price index of the Federal Government for January 1952 and all subsequent months; the indexes previously published on the base 1926=100 are the official price indexes for Decem-

ber 1951 and all earlier dates. The index presented here for the year 1951 on a 1947-49=100 base is taken from a "linked" series, calculated solely for analytical purposes, and does not supersede the former index (1926=100) as the official series for that year.

Union wage scales are the minimum wage rates agreed upon through collective bargaining between employers and trade unions. Overtime beyond the negotiated maximum daily and weekly hours is excluded. In addition, the scales do not reflect either rates for apprentices or premium rates paid for special qualifications or other reasons.

Part VI--Materials. The Indexes of Construction Materials Output provide measures of production or shipments for ten groups of construction materials, and are based on the output of 43 selected materials. Monthly indexes are provided for eight groups of materials, quarterly indexes for the other two groups, and annual levels are given for all groups.

In computing the indexes, the current monthly or quarterly unit production or shipments data are converted to aggregate values by multiplying 1947-49 average prices at the mills, factories, or plants. The base period aggregate values (1947-49 monthly average = 100) are derived by multiplying 1947-49 monthly average output by the 1947 average factory, mill, or plant price. By the use of varying physical quantities, and constant prices, the group indexes represent physical quantity measures. The trend lines appearing on the charts are derived from the group indexes by removing the month-to-month fluctuations resulting from seasonal and erratic factors. The lines are 12-month moving averages centered on the seventh month, with each calendar year centered on July. Projections for the last 6 months are made by using the current data adjusted for the seasonal movements appearing during the period 1952-54, and smoothed by a 3-month moving average.

Part VII--Employment. Data on employment in contract construction cover all employees of construction firms who worked during, or received pay for, the payroll period ending nearest the 15th of the month, regardless of the type of

work performed. Only firms engaged in the construction business on a contract basis for others are included, but such firms pursue all kinds of construction activities--new work, alterations, demolitions, maintenance, and repairs. Excluded are self-employed construction workers, working proprietors, and force-account employees of non-construction firms and public agencies engaged in construction activities.

The hours and earnings estimates relate only to nonsupervisory construction workers and working foremen. All such workers, regardless of skill, are included if they are engaged in any way in contract construction activities (on either privately or publicly owned projects).

The earnings statistics shown are gross earnings before deductions for old-age and unemployment insurance, withholding tax, bonds, and union dues. Gross earnings include the workers' base pay, premium pay for overtime and for bonuses, and pay for sick leave, holidays, and vacations taken, but such items as employer contributions to welfare funds, and to insurance or pension plans, are excluded.

The indexes of weekly man-hours in contract construction are a composite measure of the trends in construction-worker employment and average weekly hours. They provide a more meaningful measure of contract-construction activity than the employment or average weekly hours series alone, since the volume of work done is dependent upon both the number of workers employed and the length of their workweek.

The foregoing employment and earnings series are based upon reports from individual contracting establishments; these reports do not contain the detail necessary to separate employment according to the kind of construction work performed, as reported in the tables on labor requirements for new construction. To yield this information, the figures on the value of new construction (see the tables on new construction put in place) are converted into estimated man-months of work, using a factor representing the value of work put in place per man-hour. This factor relates to different time periods and is based on diverse sources,

according to the type of work. For most types of work, no adjustment is made for productivity. Therefore, although the series provides a suitable general measure of labor requirements, it cannot be used to gage changes in productivity.

The labor requirement figures derived by this method are not employment figures in the same sense as those developed from employment reports. They are, instead, an approximate measurement, in terms of number of full-time workers, of the labor required to put in place the dollar volume of new construction reported for the specified period.

Since the basic data (dollar volume) cover the entire value of the work put in place, all the labor charged to the construction is included--wage and salaried employees, in addition to the working proprietors, self-employed, and employees of operative builders. Furthermore, force-account work, which is excluded from data on employment by construction contractors, is included in the labor requirement series. Also, contractors' employees may work on all kinds of construction work--demolitions, or repair and maintenance projects, as well as new construction--but the figures on labor requirements have been developed for new projects only.

Information shown in this report on apprentices in the building trades applies only to registered apprentices. A registered apprentice is defined as an employee who, under an expressed or implied agreement for a stipulated term, receives instruction in a registered apprenticeship system, and concerning whom a recognized apprenticeship agency has on record all the information it requires.

The apprenticeship data are obtained from local apprenticeship committees, trade unions, employers' associations, and building trades councils, by field representatives of the Federal Government and cooperating State Apprenticeship Agencies. Occupational classifications are based on descriptions in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (Washington, U. S. Employment Service, 2d Ed., 1949). For the purposes of the tabulation presented here, three classifica-

tions--brick, stone, and tile workers; cement masons; and plasterers--have been combined into one group, the trowel trades.

SELECTED REFERENCES

Descriptions of the techniques of compiling most of the series included, as well as related explanatory information and historical statistics are contained in

the following selected group of Government publications. Starred (*) items may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at the prices shown. The remainder listed below are available upon request to the agency responsible for the publications, unless otherwise indicated.

*Business Statistics: A Supplement to the Survey of Current Business. 1955 Biennial Edition. U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of Business Economics. \$2.

*Construction Volume and Costs, 1915-54. May be obtained from Bureau of Labor, Statistics Regional Offices or Department of Commerce Field Offices (see inside front cover of Construction Review for addresses), or from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. 50 cents.

Construction Cost Indexes, BLS Report No. 73, November 1954. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington 25, D. C.

*Construction During Five Decades, Historical Statistics, 1915-52. BLS Bulletin No. 1146. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 45 cents.

*Employment and Earnings. Monthly. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Subscription price: \$3.50 domestic; \$4.50 foreign. Single copies vary in price.

*Employment and Earnings. Annual Supplement Issue. June 1956. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington 25, D. C. 70 cents.

*Eighth Annual Report-Housing and Home Finance Agency. Calendar Year 1954. Housing and Home Finance Agency. \$1.50.

Housing Statistics. Monthly. Housing and Home Finance Agency, Division of Housing Research, Washington 25, D. C.

New Construction Expenditures, 1915-51: Labor Requirements 1939-51. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Construction Statistics, Washington 25, D. C.

*Techniques of Preparing Major BLS Statistical Series, BLS Bulletin 1168, U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 60 cents.

Chapter II--Estimating National Housing Volume

Chapter III--Estimating Expenditures for New Construction

Chapter IV--Labor Required for New Construction

Chapter VI--Measurement of Industrial Employment

Chapter VII--Hours and Earnings in Nonagricultural Industries

Chapter X--Wholesale Price Index

Chapter XII--Studies of Occupational Wages and Supplementary Benefits

*Union Wages and Hours: Building Trades, July 1, 1955. BLS Bulletin 1192. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 30 cents.

"Revised Wholesale Price Index of Building Materials," Construction, March 1952, pp. 3-8. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Division of Construction Statistics, Washington 25, D. C.

"A Description of the Revised Wholesale Price Index." Serial No. R.2067. Monthly Labor Review, Feb. 1952. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington 25, D. C.

*Wholesale Prices, 1951 and 1952. BLS Bulletin 1143. U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 30 cents.

